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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

FINANCE DEPARTMENT (CENTRAL REVENUES)

MEMORANDUM

/2

ON

EXCISE (OPIUM) ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA

FOR

1932-33

18TH EDITION

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CHAPTER I.

MADRAS PRESIDENCY.

1. *Revenue.*—The opium revenue for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 36·57 lakhs, of which Rs. 25·53 lakhs were realised under sale proceeds of opium (including sale proceeds on opium supplied to the Indian States, French Settlements and Coorg—*Vide* paragraph 4 below). In 1931-32, the revenue derived from opium amounted to Rs. 37·38 lakhs, against Rs. 17·22 lakhs in the year 1912-13 (Statement III).

2. *Supply and Duty.*—The cultivation of the poppy in the Presidency was prohibited, the opium supply of the Province being obtained from the Ghazipur Factory in the United Provinces. The drug was stocked in district treasuries in the first instance and thence distributed to taluk cutcherries. It was issued to licensed vendors from taluk cutcherries at Rs. 80 per seer. This price included Rs. 18-6-0 the cost of producing the opium. The balance of Rs. 61-10-0 was excise duty.

3. *Import.*—The internal transactions in and interprovincial import and export of opium were governed by the Madras Opium Rules, 1932 framed under sections 5 and 13 of the Opium Act, 1878 as amended by the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930. For administrative purposes a distinction was made in the above rules between raw opium and opium mixture, the former referring to "(i) capsules of the poppy (Papaver Somniferum L); and (ii) the spontaneously coagulated juice of such capsules which was not submitted to any manipulations other than those necessary for packing and transport" and the latter to "any mixture with or without neutral materials of any of the forms of raw opium but excluding any preparation containing not more than 0·2 per cent. of morphine or a manufactured drug as defined in section 2 of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930."

The external transactions, *viz.*, import into and export out of British India and transhipment were governed by the rules framed under section 7(2) of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930 in the Notification No. 1, dated 18th February 1933 of the Government of India, Finance Department (Central Revenues).

The import of raw opium or opium mixture from another part of British India was permitted only by or on behalf of the Local Government. Import from an Indian State or a Foreign Settlement in India could be permitted in the following cases under an authorisation granted by the Commissioner of Excise:—

(i) import by land of raw opium into the Presidency of Madras from an Indian State or Foreign Settlement in India, if such opium, being opium supplied from a Government treasury in the Presidency of Madras, was returned by the authorities in such State or Settlement;

(ii) the import by land, subject to such conditions and restrictions as could be prescribed by the Commissioner of Excise, of opium into the Presidency of Madras from any part of an Indian State or foreign Settlement in India, in the course of transit to another part of the same State or Settlement.

Bona fide travellers were permitted to import personally into this presidency by land from other Provinces or any Indian State adjoining this Presidency, opium for their personal use up to the limit of quantity within which possession was allowed without a pass on the Madras side of the frontier.

4. *Export.*—Export of raw opium or opium mixture to other Provinces was permitted only under an import authorisation granted in accordance with the rules in force in the province of import and countersigned by the Commissioner. The Commissioner of Excise could grant an authorisation for the export of opium by land to any State or Foreign Settlement in India on production of an import certificate from the Government of such State or Settlement. The States of Mysore, Travancore, Cochin and Pudukottai and the French Settlements in the Presidency obtained their supplies of raw opium wholly from the Madras Government. The maximum quantities of raw opium to be supplied to the above States (except Mysore) and Settlements were fixed. The opium required for Coorg was supplied from the Madras Taluk office on receipt of an indent from the Commissioner of Coorg.

5. *Retail Vend and Incidence of Taxation.*—The right of selling opium by retail was put up to auction annually shop by shop.

In 1932-33, the total number of licensed shops was 556 against 555 in 1931-32 and 851 in the year 1912-13. The receipts from rentals amounted to Rs. 11·04 lakhs and the sale proceeds of opium issued to licensed vendors to Rs. 23·88 lakhs. The total quantity of issues within the Presidency in 1932-33 was 29,972 seers which gives an average incidence of taxation of nearly Rs. 36·91 from vend fees and Rs. 61·63 gain on sale or in all Rs. 98·54 per seer. In 1931-32, the incidence of total taxation per seer of opium amounted to Rs. 101·14 compared with Rs. 38·5 in the year 1912-13 (Statement IV).

6. *Possession and Sale.*—A licensed vendor could sell to any person at any one time, raw opium or opium mixture, provided that the quantity of the raw opium and of the raw opium contained in the opium mixture so sold did not exceed in the aggregate—

(i) in the Agencies of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari, two tolas and

(ii) elsewhere in the Presidency of Madras, one tola.

Any person could have in his possession—

(i) raw opium purchased from a licensed vendor; or

(ii) opium mixture so purchased, or manufactured in accordance with the rules framed by the Governor General in Council under sub-section (2) of section 5 of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930.

Provided that the quantity of the raw opium referred to in clause (i) and of the raw opium contained in the opium mixture referred to in clause (ii) did not, in the aggregate, exceed—

(*a*) in the Agencies of Ganjam, Vizagapatam and East Godavari, two tolas, and

(*b*) elsewhere in the Presidency of Madras, one tola.

7. *Opium offences.*—There were indications that the abolition of the special staff of the Excise Intelligence Bureau had led to a recrudescence of the smuggling of opium on a large scale. In one of the cases detected, the quantity involved was as much as 65 seers of opium. The drugs were intended for export to Ceylon.

For figures of convictions pertaining to the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33 see statement VI.

8. Calculated on the Census figures of 1931, the consumption of opium in the Presidency excluding Indian States and French Settlements in 1932-33 (29,972 seers) worked out to 0·64 seer per thousand of population against 0·65 seer in the previous year.

9. *Excessive consumption of opium—measures to check—Enquiry.*—The investigation referred to in paragraph 9 of the previous year's memorandum was conducted by the Public Health Staff in certain villages of the Agency and deltaic portions of the East Godavari district. The report of the District Health Officer on the subject was under the consideration of Government.

Measures adopted to check the practice of administering opium to children.—The Public Health Department and Educational authorities devoted attention to propaganda and welfare work on the evils of opium.

The several measures referred to in paragraph 9 of the memorandum for 1931-32 to check the practice of administering opium to children were repeated during the year. During the year under review 157 lectures and 921 informal talks at Child Welfare Centres were given on the evils administering opium to children. Most of these lectures were delivered at Mothers' meetings. The gatherings of mothers at the time of vaccination were also taken advantage of to do propaganda on this subject. The midwives impressed on the mothers the great harm that is done to their children by the administration of opium. They did this during their antenatal and post-natal visits and also at the Child Welfare Centres.

Opium derivatives.

10. The transactions in 'opium derivatives' were governed by the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930. The Madras Manufactured Drugs Rules, 1932, framed by the Local Government under section 8(2) of the above Act regulated the transport, possession, sale, and interprovincial import and export of opium derivatives other than prepared opium and manufacture of medicinal opium and any preparation containing morphine or diacetyl morphine. The external transactions such as import into and export out of British India and transhipment were governed by the Dangerous Drugs (Import, Export and Transhipment) Rules, 1933 framed under section 7(2) of the Dangerous Drugs Act by the Government of India in their Notification No. 1, dated the 18th February 1933.

11. *Import.*—The Import of opium derivatives other than prepared opium was permitted in the following cases:—

(a) importation from any part of British India outside this province subject to the rules for the time being in force in such part relating to the export of such preparations.

(*b*) importation by sea or by land into this Presidency from any place outside British India subject to an authorization granted by the Commissioner of Excise, Madras.

(*c*) importation by sea or by land into this Presidency from any place outside British India in the course of transit to any other place outside British India subject to an authorization marked 'in transit' granted by the Commissioner of Excise, Madras.

12. *Export.*—The export of 'opium derivatives' other than prepared opium was permitted in the following cases:—

(*a*) to any State in India or Foreign Settlement in India subject to the production of an import certificate from the Government of the importing State or Settlement and under an export authorization obtained from the Collector of Customs, Madras when the export was by sea to any place other than a Maritime State in India and from the Commissioner of Excise, Madras in other cases.

(*b*) to any part of British India outside this province under an import authorization granted under the rules for the time being in force in such part and countersigned by the Collector of the district of export, in the case of export by licensed dealers and under a special order from the Commissioner of Excise, Madras, in other cases.

Provided that no export authorization was required in the case of (1) export by land of opium derivatives other than prepared opium which had been imported into British India in transit to a place outside British India under an import authorization marked 'in transit' by the authority issuing the same and (2) opium derivatives other than prepared opium exported by land personally by a traveller to a Foreign Settlement or State in India which had been lawfully obtained for the personal use of the traveller or his family from a recognised physician or a licensed pharmacist in British India.

13. *Licenses.*—Under the Madras Manufactured Drugs Rules, 1932, two sets of licences were prescribed for the sale of opium derivatives and other manufactured drugs other than prepared opium. One kind of license (wholesale) was issued to licensed dealers in Madras City for the vend of those preparations otherwise than on prescription and the other (retail) to licensed chemists in the Presidency for sale on prescription. During 1932-33, 28 licences under the 1st category and 253 licenses under the 2nd were issued. Sales under the 1st kind of license could be made to:—

(1) another licensed dealer or chemist in the Presidency or any other part of British India, who held an authorization for the transport or export of the drugs.

(2) an approved practitioner.

(3) a person holding a special authorization from the Commissioner of Excise, Madras, for the export of the drugs.

14. *Possession and Sale.*—Licensees could obtain their supplies either by direct importation from places outside British India or from a licensed dealer in the Presidency or any other part of British India or by manufacture of medicinal opium and of any preparation containing morphine or

diacetylmorphine from materials which they were lawfully entitled to possess. They could possess raw opium up to the quantities allowed in the licences for the manufacture of medicinal opium and could obtain their supplies of raw opium from taluk cutcherries in this Presidency. The limit of possession was restricted in the case of ordinary persons to so much as could be dispensed by a licensed Chemist on a prescription given by an approved practitioner. An approved practitioner could possess for use in his practice but not for sale opium derivatives other than prepared opium containing in the aggregate not more than 120 grains of either morphine or diacetylmorphine or woth.

CHAPTER II.

Bombay Presidency Proper.

15. *Revenue.*—The Excise opium revenue for the year 1932-33 was Rs. 23,07,301 of which Rs. 13,10,265 represented the profit on the sale of Government opium, including duty, and the balance was on account of license fees. The revenue derived from excise opium in the previous year amounted to Rs. 23·95 lakhs and in 1912-13 it was Rs. 12·15 lakhs. The decrease in revenue was due to the decrease in consumption of opium.

16. *Supply to British Districts and Indian States.*—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in the Bombay Presidency and also in the Indian States under the Political control of the local Government and the requisite supplies were procured from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces.

17. The duty on opium brought from the Ghazipur Factory was Rs. 600 per chest containing 60 cakes of one seer each. All opium whether it was required by licensed vendors of British Districts or by Indian States, was brought in the first instance by the Local Government and taken to the Government Depôts established in each district of the Presidency proper, including the City of Bombay, and at Sadra and Baroda Cantonment. It was thence issued to vendors and States. The vendors were charged the depôt rate which was so fixed as to include the duty and to yield a profit over and above the purchase price, whilst the States had to pay a duty of Rs. 10 per seer or Rs. 600 per chest of 60 seers, the cost price, (Rs. 18-6-0 per seer) charged by the factory authorities at Ghazipur and the transport charges from Ghazipur to Depôt. The States were allowed remission of the duty on the supplies taken by them to the extent specified in the next paragraph. This was granted either at the time of issue of the opium or subsequently on their preferring a refund bill. The issue rate in force during the year under report was Rs. 75 per seer throughout the Presidency proper.

18. *Agreements with Indian States.*—Agreements were in force with all Indian Chiefs in the Presidency to secure their co-operation in stopping the contraband traffic in opium. Under these agreements:—

(1) The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in all Indian States except Baroda.

(2) Baroda was permitted to grow the poppy and to manufacture opium under a State monopoly for consumption in its own territory. The State had undertaken to prevent the introduction of Baroda opium into British Territory and into the territories of adjoining Indian States and according to an understanding subsisting since 1886, the minimum selling price of opium in Baroda territory and the adjacent Indian States, as well as in the British Districts in Gujerat (*viz.*, Ahmedabad, Kaira, Panch Mahals, Broach and Surat) was to be fixed at Rs. 2-8 per seer (of 80 tolas) over and above the issue rate at the Government Depôts. At the request of the Baroda Government they were absolved from the obligation to fix the minimum retail prices in Baroda territory at Rs. 2-8-0 per seer in advance of the British issue rate, provided that opium was issued to retail vendors in the

State at a rate not less than that fixed for the issue of opium from depôts in the neighbouring British districts and the retail arrangements including the method of disposal of shops were assimilated to those obtaining in the British territory.

(3) All other Indian States had to obtain their supplies from a British Depôt in the manner indicated in paragraph 17 above.

(4) All Indian Chiefs were bound to exert themselves to prevent the introduction of untaxed opium into their territories.

(5) In return for the obligations undertaken, the States were guaranteed the enjoyment of the privileges enumerated below so long as they faithfully carried out their agreements.

Baroda enjoyed the whole of the revenue derivable under its State monopoly; Cambay, the Mahi Kantha and the Rewa Kantha States were allowed a remission of the whole of the British duty levied on opium consumed within their limits; the Satara Jahagirdars (including the Bhor State, and the Jath and Daflapur States) were allowed similar remission to the extent of one-tenth and all other States of one-fifth of the duty. Special compensation had also been granted in all cases in which any loss of the opium revenue formerly enjoyed by the Chiefs was found to have been caused by the above arrangements.

19. *Retail vend arrangements.*—As regards retail vend arrangements, the separate shop system prevailed throughout the Presidency. Under this system the right of retail vend was disposed of as a rule by separate shops, the numbers and localities of which were determined by the Excise Authorities. The shops in the Town and Island of Bombay and Bandra and Kurla were renewed to the previous year's licensees for an amount which represented a 20 per cent. increase of the previous year's license fees and elsewhere they were sold by auction. The licensees were required to obtain their supplies from a Government depôt. The total number of licensed opium shops was 700 against 690 in the preceding year and 786 in the year 1912-13.

20. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—The total sales in British Districts in 1932-33 amounted to 17,034 seers and the receipts for these districts were Rs. 23,07,301 of which Rs. 9,96,817 represented the profit on the sale of Government opium, including duty and the balance of Rs. 9·97 and 3·13 lakhs represented license fees and cost price of opium respectively. The average taxation thus worked out to Rs. 58·53 per seer from license fees, *plus* Rs. 58·52 as profit including Rs. 10 duty, or in all Rs. 117·05 per seer. In 1931-32, the total sales in British districts amounted to 17,957 seers, against 44,259 seers in the year 1912-13. As regards the total receipts from opium and the average taxation per seer of opium during these years please see statements XIII and XIV.

21. The Indian States under the Bombay Government indented for 4,621 seers of Ghazipur opium in 1932-33, while 4,570 seers of locally produced opium were sold in Baroda.

22. *Druggists' license.*—Druggists and medical practitioners were allowed under license from the Collector to retail for medicinal purposes opium and preparations thereof (other than smoking preparations), and could for this purpose possess opium in larger quantities, than was

allowed to the general public. 1,108 such licenses were issued during the year under report, against 1,097 in the preceding year and 942 in 1912-13.

23. *Opium drugs.*—The Bombay Opium Rules allowed of the preparation for vend of opium drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) by licensed vendors; but in accordance with the terms of their license the vendors were in effect restricted to the sale of crude opium and poppy heads, so that intoxicating drugs, not being smoking preparations, could only be procured from licensed medical practitioners and druggists.

Smoking preparations could not be bought and sold, but could be possessed to the extent of a quarter of a tola by a smoker, who prepared them for himself. In the case of two or more individuals assembled together for the purpose of smoking, the aggregate limit of possession was fixed at half a tola.

24. *Poppy heads.*—There were no restrictions on dried poppy heads from which the juice had been extracted, but otherwise poppy heads were subject to the same restrictions as opium proper. No separate licenses were issued for their sale in the Bombay Presidency. They could be retailed by licensed vendors of opium who made their own arrangements for procuring them.

25. *Private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession was one tola of opium, including poppy heads from which the juice had not been extracted. Drugs prepared from opium, other than smoking preparations were allowed to be possessed by private individuals up to a limit of one tola of crude opium contained therein. The limit of individual and collective possession for smoking preparations was, as stated above, ¼ to ½ tola, respectively.

26. *Import.*—Foreign opium could be imported by sea into the port of Bombay, in whole or half chests, for re-exportation after transhipment or in the same bottom, on payment of small transhipment or re-export fee. Every transhipment of Persian or Turkish opium was referred to the Government of India before it was allowed by the Collector of Customs, Bombay. Opium could also be imported (by means other than that of the post) otherwise than in whole or half chests for re-exportation on payment of full tariff duty and subject to any special orders passed by the Excise Commissioner as to its subsequent possession and disposal.

Import of opium by land was allowed only:—

(*a*) for issue (by Government) to licensed vendors or Indian States, and

(*b*) in the case of through-rail consignments for other parts of British India, etc., which enter Bombay territory.

27. *Opium offences.*—Opium offences decreased from 382 to 312. Of these 311 were tried in British territory and 1 in Indian States, against 349 and 33, respectively tried in the previous year. In 1912-13, the number of cases investigated under the Opium Act were 241. Cases of illegal possession during the year under review were 176 against 289 in the previous year, and those of illegal import were 87 against 59 in the previous year. The contraband opium seized in British territory amounted to 202 seers. No opium was seized in Indian States.

28. *Average consumption.*—Calculated on the figures of the census of 1931, the opium consumption in the Presidency proper for 1932-33, 17,034 seers worked out to 0·95 seer per 1,000 of population. In 1931-32, the opium consumption per 1,000 of population was 0·99 seer and in the year 1912-13, 2·7 seers.

29. *Measures to check the administration of opium to children.*—The National Baby and Health Week Association, Bombay, as usual continued their activities in warning mothers against the danger of drugging children with opium by means of magic lantern and cinema demonstrations, exhibition of models and posters and free distribution of leaflets in the vernacular on infant welfare. These exhibitions took place in 137 towns and villages during the baby week celebrations. 19 one day health exhibitions and cinema shows were held in 11 different mills in Bombay City and other Towns of the Bombay Presidency where the habit of drugging children was most prevalent. The Lady Inspector of Factories also took every opportunity by lectures and conversations to convince the factory and mill workers of the evil effects of administering opium to children. These activities had no doubt some educative value and probably contributed to a decline in the sale of opium in towns where there were mills.

CHAPTER III.

SIND.

30. *Revenue.*—The Excise opium Revenue for the year 1932-33 was Rs. 4,37,628 of which 2,33,086 represented the gross receipts on issues of Excise opium (*i.e.*, cost price *plus* gain on sale proceeds). The balance was derived from vend fees. In 1931-32, the revenue under this head amounted to Rs. 4·67 lakhs compared with Rs. 3·68 lakhs during the year 1912-13.

31. *Supply.*—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in Sind. Supplies of opium were obtained from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces. Opium was imported by Government in chests containing 60 cakes of one seer (two lbs.) each and deposited at treasuries and sub-treasuries. The duty which was credited to Provincial revenues was fixed at Rs. 10 per seer. The cost price of the drug is notified by the Government of India from time to time.

32. *Issues to licensed vendors.*—Licensed opium vendors obtained their supplies by indent on the local Treasury or Sub-Treasury paying a price which included the duty on and the cost price of the drug and a margin which was credited to the Provincial Revenue as gain on sale. The issue price in force in 1932-33 was Rs. 60 per seer.

33. *Retail vend arrangements.*—Retail vend licenses were disposed of at the public auctions held yearly. The total number of shops licensed during 1932-33 was 179 as against 169 in the preceding year and 246 in the year 1912-13.

34. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—The total sales amounted to 3,848 seers and the total receipts to 4,37,628 of which 2,33,086 represent the cost price *plus* duty and gain on the sale of Government opium and Rs. 2,04,542, the receipts from license fees, etc. The incidence of taxation was Rs. 113·73 (vend fee Rs. 53·16, cost price and gain including duty on sales Rs. 60·57). For the total sales and average taxation per seer of opium during the years 1912-13 and 1931-32 please see statements I to IV.

35. *Druggists' licenses.*—Druggists and Medical practitioners were allowed under license from the Collector to retail opium and its preparations (other than smoking preparations) for medical purposes and could for this purpose possess opium in larger quantities (the maximum was fixed by the Collector) than that allowed to the general public. 38 such licenses were issued in 1932-33 as against 37 in the preceding year and 31 in 1912-13. The manufacture and sale of morphia and its preparations and derivatives were permitted under special licenses by approved medical practitioners, chemists and Druggists only. The number of such licenses issued in 1932-33 was 39 against 37 in the preceding year and 30 in the year 1912-13.

36. *Opium rules.*—The Bombay Opium Rules provide for the issue of licenses for the preparation and vend of drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) on conditions prescribed by the Commissioner with the previous sanction of Government. No such licenses were issued in the year under report and in the preceding year. Smoking preparations could not be sold but could be possessed to the extent of a quarter of a tola by an individual smoker prepared from opium licitly obtained. In

the case of two or more individuals assembled for smoking, the aggregate limit of possession was fixed at half a tola. A revised form of a license for the retail sale of *balagolis* for the Province of Sind was approved in G. R. No. 1485/24, dated the 28th August 1925.

37. *Poppy heads.*—There were no restrictions on the possession and sale of dry poppy heads from which the juice was extracted, but otherwise poppy heads were subject to the same restrictions as opium.

38. *Private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession was one tola of opium including poppy heads from which the juice had not been extracted. In the case of preparation of opium (other than smoking preparations) possessed by private individuals, the contents of crude opium was not to exceed one tola. In the portion of the Thar Parkar District lying east of the Eastern Nara Canal, the limit of private possession of crude opium or drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) was 4 tolas.

39. *Import.*—Foreign opium could be imported by sea into the port of Karachi in whole or half chests for re-exportation after transhipment, or in the same bottom, on payment of a fee of rupee one per chest.

Import of opium by land was allowed only—

(*a*) For issue by Government to licensed vendors.

(*b*) For re-exportation to Indian States if booked through by railway.

40. *Crime.*—93 cases were detected during the year as against 105 in the preceding year. Out of these, 50 were detected in Thar Parkar District and the rest in other districts of the province.

41. *Average consumption.*—Calculated on the census figures of 1931, the opium consumption for 1932-33 (3,848 seers) works out to 1 seer per one thousand population. The consumption in Sukkur and Hyderabad Districts was comparatively high. For figures of average consumption of opium per thousand population (based on the census figures of 1931) during 1912-13 and 1931-32, please see statement No. I.

CHAPTER IV.

Bengal Presidency.

42. *Revenue.*—The opium revenue for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 38·19 lakhs, of which Rs. 27·12 lakhs were derived from duty including cost price and the balance from license or vend fees, compared with Rs. 41·90 lakhs in the preceding year and Rs. 23·76 lakhs in 1912-13.

43. *Supply.*—The supply was obtained from the Government Opium Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces. The opium was made up into cakes weighing one seer each, 60 of which were packed in a case.

44. *Retail vend and consumption.*—Licenses for the retail sale of opium were settled during the year under the "Bengal Fixed Fee System". The total number of shops settled in 1932-33 was 871 compared with 865 in the preceding year and 891 in 1912-13. The total consumption in 1932-33 was 736 maunds 23 seers excluding 9 maunds 36 seers exported duty-paid to Foreign territories and Indian States as compared with 804 maunds 30 seers in 1931-32 and 1,697 maunds in 1912-13.

The average consumption per 1,000 of the population in 1932-33 was ·59 seer against ·64 seer in 1931-32 and 1·5 seers in 1912-13.

Issues of opium to the retail shops in the districts of Midnapore, Hooghly, Howrah, the 24-Parganas, Calcutta, Nadia, Murshidabad, Khulna, Bakerganj, Faridpur, Chittagong, Noakhali, Tippera and Jalpaiguri and to a few shops in Jessore, Mymensingh and Rajshahi and one shop in Rangpur were limited to an amount based on the estimated local demand as ascertained by local inquiry and a study of the issues of previous years.

45. *Sale proceeds and taxation.*—The treasury price of opium was Rs. 91 per seer throughout the whole of the Presidency of Bengal except for some shops of the district of Midnapore near the border of the province of Bihar and Orissa for which the rate was Rs. 76 per seer. In 1912-13, the treasury price of opium varied from Rs. 29 to Rs. 35 per seer.

The total amount credited to Government on account of sale proceeds of excise opium during 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 27·12 lakhs including the sale proceeds of 9 maunds 36 seers exported to Foreign territories and Indian States giving an average rate of Rs. 90·50 per seer. The sale proceeds of opium in 1931-32 were Rs. 29·56 lakhs while in 1912-13 they were Rs. 14·80 lakhs.

The receipts from license or vend fees in 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 11·05 lakhs, giving an average of Rs. 37·50 per seer as compared with Rs. 12·34 lakhs in 1931-32 and Rs. 8·96 lakhs in 1912-13.

The total taxation per seer in 1932-33 was Rs. 128·00 against Rs. 129·12 in 1931-32 and Rs. 35·0 in 1912-13.

46. *Druggists' license.*—Druggists obtained licenses for the sale of opium and poppy heads for medicinal purposes only, at a nominal fee of Re. 1 per annum. Their supply for this purpose was limited to one seer of opium and ten seers of poppy heads at a time or such larger quantity as the Excise Commissioner allowed in any particular case.

47. *Intoxicating drugs, etc.*—Intoxicating drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) were prepared and sold for medicinal

purposes by licensed druggists. They could also be made up for private consumption, from opium in the lawful possession of the manufacturer, up to a limit of 5 tolas.

Preparations for opium smoking were not permitted to be bought and sold but could be manufactured for personal use only from opium lawfully possessed, and then only to the extent of one tola at a time. Persons assembled together for the purpose of smoking could possess such preparations in a quantity not exceeding 2 tolas in the aggregate.

48. *Manufacture of medicinal preparations of opium by chemists and druggists.*—The following quantities of opium powder and opium cakes were imported from Ghazipur to Calcutta by the local chemists during 1932-33 for manufacture of medicinal preparations at a special rate of duty:—

	Opium powder at Rs. 15 per lb.	Opium cake at Rs. 11 per lb.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Messr. Bathgate & Co.	100	0
„ Smith Stanistreet & Co. . . .	205	0
Dr. Bose's Laboratory Ltd.	40	80
Messrs. Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works, Ld.	240	0
Messrs. B. K. Paul & Co.	150	40
„ M. Bhattacharyya & Co. . . .	5	5
„ H. S. Abdul Gunny & Co. . .	2	8
„ Union Drug C. Ltd.	40	0
Total .	782	133
Against .	519	110

in the preceding year.

49. *Private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession was 1 tola of excise opium throughout the Presidency of Bengal with the following exceptions:—

(*a*) In the Sunderbans colonization area in the district of Bakerganj, the limit was ½ tola and 5 seers of poppy heads except on the production of a permit from the Colonization Officer in which case the limit was 1 tola.

(*b*) In Calcutta and in the industrial areas of the Howrah, Hooghly and the 24-Parganas districts, the limit of retail sale and private possession was 12 grains or 1/15 tola except on a permit granted by the Collector of the district on the production of a medical certificate in which case the limit was ½ a tola or 90 grains.

50. *Import.*—The restrictions on the import of opium and its preparations continued to be in force and the import procedure prescribed by the League of Nations was enforced. Medicinal preparations containing opium or morphia which were exempted from other excise restrictions were subjected to the import certificate system to meet the requirements of the

International Geneva Opium Agreement and Geneva Dangerous Drugs Convention of 1925. A chemist or druggist or any other person desiring to import foreign opium and preparations including morphia drugs and medicinal opium could only do so after obtaining an import authorization and an import certificate in the form prescribed by the League of Nations from the Commissioner of Excise and after giving an undertaking that the drug to be imported was intended exclusively for medicinal purposes. No fee was charged for such authorisation and it covered the import as well as the transport of the drugs to the place of business of the importer. Apart from the above, import into the Presidency was not allowed except on behalf of Government.

51. *Opium offences.*—The total number of persons convicted for offences relating to opium during the year was 110 compared with 119 in 1931-32 and 272 in 1912-13. The total quantity of contraband opium seized during the year was 13 maunds 26 seers against 14 maunds 22 seers during 1931-32.

The following statement summarises the cases in which opium seized during the year 1932-33 was traced to have been smuggled from outside Bengal:—

Province or State of origin.	Number of seizure.	Quantity seized. Md. Sr. Ch.
Rajputana	2	0 18 0
United Provinces	6	0 29 8
Cooch Behar	1	0 4 0
Assam	1	0 5 0
Bihar and Orissa	1	0 0 3
Delhi	3	0 33 6
	14	2 10 1

During the year under report, the Bengal Opium Smoking Act, 1932, (Bengal Act X of 1932) was introduced into and passed by the Bengal Legislative Council on the 8th August 1932. This Act received the assent of the Governor-General on the 30th September 1932. Under Government notification No. 1753-Ex., dated the 28th March 1933, the Act came into force from the 1st June 1933 throughout the whole of Bengal except the districts of Darjeeling and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Rules framed by Government under the above Act were published by their notification No. 1758-Ex., dated the 28th March 1933 in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 6th April 1933.

The Opium (Bengal Amendment) Act of 1931 was passed by the Bengal Legislative Council on the 13th March 1933. This received the assent of the Governor-General on the 3rd May 1933.

52. *Administrative changes and reforms.*—The following administrative changes were sanctioned and came into effect during the year under report:—

(i) With effect from the 1st January 1933, the individual private possession at a time and retail sale of Excise opium per diem to one person in the areas noted below were limited to 12 grains or 1/15th tola except on a permit granted by the Superintendent of Excise of the

district on the production of a medical certificate in which case the limit was fixed at half-a-tola (90 grains):—

(1) Calcutta.

(2) Thanas Serampore and Chanditola in Hooghly district.

(3) Sadar sub-division of Howrah and thanas Bouria and Uluberia in Howrah district.

(4) Barrackpore Sub-division of 24-Parganas and thanas Matiabruz, Moheshtala, Behala, Tollyganja and Budge-Budge in 24-Parganas district.

(ii) The vendors of the opium shops in the Sunderbans colonization area in the district of Bakerganj were permitted to sell opium to the extent of 1 tola at a time to consumers only on production of a permit from the Colonization Officer.

In all other places of the province, the limits were fixed at 1 tola (180 grains).

CHAPTER V.

BURMA.

53. *Revenue.*—Excluding the cost of production (at Rs. 18-9-0 per seer) of the Benares opium supplied, but including the sale proceeds of confiscated contraband opium sold in some of the opium shops, the total opium revenue for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 32,90,638, of which Rs. 32,89,762 (excluding special licence fees) were derived from duty and sale proceeds of excise and confiscated opium. In 1931-32, the total receipts from opium amounted to Rs. 29·72 lakhs, against Rs. 42·27 lakhs in 1912-13.

54. *Special conditions of opium traffic in Burma.*—The opium traffic was carried on in Burma under special conditions and restrictions, owing to the fact that the possession and consumption of opium were permitted only under strict official supervision. (see paragraph 58 below).

55. *Opium-smoking.*—Special precautions were taken against the spread of the opium smoking habit which is considered by some to be more insidious and harmful than the habit of eating opium. The sale of prepared opium was discontinued since 1921-22. The effect of certain changes made in 1924 in the Burma Opium Rules was to prohibit the possession of "prepared" opium by any person other than registered opium smokers except in the Bhamo and Myitkyina Districts and in the Backward Tracts of Burma notified for the time being under Section 52-A(2) of the Government of India Act. The Register of opium smokers was closed to new entrants on the 8th July 1924.

On the advice, however, of the Committee which was constituted by the Local Government to consider the recommendations of the League of Nations Commission of Enquiry into opium smoking in the Far East, the system of closed register was abolished from 1st April 1932, and true addicts to opium smoking whether Burman or non-Burman were permitted, if over 25 years of age, to register themselves as opium smokers and to purchase opium from Government opium shops for smoking purposes.

56. *Cultivation.*—The cultivation of the poppy was absolutely prohibited by law throughout Burma, except in areas administered under the Kachin Hills Regulation, where cultivation was permissible only under licence. The issue of licences was restricted. Supplies of opium were obtained from the Ghazipur factory, supplemented by such confiscated contraband opium as was found on examination to be fit for consumption.

57. *Possession.*—(i) Persons of all races who had registered themselves as either eaters or smokers could possess opium, provided they had bought it from a Government opium shop.

(ii) Travellers of distinction entering Burma from the Shan States could possess opium produced in the Shan States which they had brought with them for their consumption.

(iii) Medical practitioners could possess opium.

(iv) Persons to whom special licences had been granted (pharmacists, doctors, tattooers and others) could possess opium in accordance with their licences.

The ordinary limit of private possession was that prescribed for retail sale, *viz.*, three tolas of opium (other than opium used for medicinal purposes), six tolas of medicinal preparations; and five seers of poppy heads.

The possession of morphia and its compounds by private individuals was allowed only under medical prescription, but an approved practitioner could possess for use in his practice, but not for sale, morphia drugs containing not more than 60 grains of morphine.

58. *Registration of Opium Consumers in Burma.*—In 1893, it was decided to extend to Lower Burma the prohibition of the use of opium (except for medicinal purposes) by Burmans, which had always been enforced in Upper Burma. In order to avoid inflicting hardship on Burmans who had become habituated to the use of the drug, notices were issued in March 1893, to the effect that, after the new system had been introduced, no Burmans, except such as had registered themselves, would be permitted to possess opium except for medicinal purposes: that all Burmans of 25 years and upwards who desired to continue the use of opium must register themselves, and that Burmans under 25 years of age were not permitted to register themselves. Each registered consumer was furnished with a certificate of registration. These registers were re-opened during 1900-03 for the registration of persons who were eligible for registration in 1893 but who omitted to get themselves registered at that time. The registers were subsequently closed. This system of closed registers did not meet with the success anticipated. It was found that in spite of the prohibition of opium consumption by unregistered Burmans, large numbers of Burmans were recruited to the opium habit, and as these could not be supplied with opium from Government opium shops, they constituted a standing demand for smuggled opium. In unhealthy districts again, it was found that Burmans, chiefly wood-cutters and fishermen, were secretly using smuggled opium as a prophylactic against, and cure for, malaria. In order to combat this evil, a new register of opium consumers was first opened in 1924-25 in the Myaungmya District, under what became known as the *Myaungmya* experiment. This experiment proved successful and was later extended to several other districts. The Commission of Enquiry into the Control of Opium Smoking in the Far East appointed by the Council of the League of Nations which visited Burma in 1931, condemned the system of closed registers and subsequently the Local Government decided to throw open the opium consumers' registers both for eaters and smokers of all races to meet the requirements of all real addicts. Effect was given to this decision from 1st April 1932, when the Myaungmya experiment referred to above automatically lapsed. With the object of crippling the smuggling trade, it was further decided to reduce the retail price of shop opium in those districts where the consumption of illicit opium was high.

An incident of the year was the rejection by the Burma Legislative Council of a resolution recommending ratification of the Agreement adopted by the Conference on the Suppression of Opium-Smoking held under the auspices of the League of Nations at Bangkôk, The two Articles of the Agreement which apply to Burma were:—

(1) that the retail sale of opium should only be from Government opium shops;

(2) that persons under 21 years of age should be prohibited from smoking opium and that it should be an offence punishable with imprisonment to induce a person under 21 to smoke opium,

They were really non-contentious; there was no criticism of them in the Council. The rejection of the resolution without discussion might be attributed to an inadequate appreciation of the situation and did not reflect, it is hoped, the final and considered intentions of the Council.

59. *Rates of issue to licensed vendors.*—Excise opium was supplied by Government to District Treasuries and was issued to the few remaining licensed vendors at rates ranging from Rs. 163, to Rs. 187-8-0, per seer in Lower Burma and at Rs. 170 per seer in Upper Burma. In 1912-13, the rates at which Bengal Excise Opium was issued to District Treasuries and licensed vendors ranged from Rs. 40, to Rs. 95 per seer in Lower Burma, including the Thayetmyo District, and from Rs. 50, to Rs. 99 per seer in Upper Burma.

Confiscated foreign opium was issued to licensed vendors in the Frontier districts of Katha, Myitkyina and Upper Chindwin at rates ranging from Rs. 20, to Rs. 95, per seer. The rates of issue to the licensed vendors were the wholesale prices paid by them and were so calculated with reference to the retail prices as to allow the licencees to make a reasonable profit on their sales. With the abolition of nearly all the licencees during the latter part of the previous year, and the sale of opium in all but a few shops by Government Resident Excise Officers (see paragraph 60) wholesale prices ceased to have any significance.

60. *Vend Arrangements.*—In 1932-33, there were 119 opium shops in Burma, the same as in the previous year as against 124 in 1912-13. The right to sell in these shops was previously given solely to vendors selected by the Deputy Commissioner of the District subject to the Divisional Commissioner's approval. The auction system which formerly prevailed was given up in 1902 in Lower Burma and in 1904 in Upper Burma, as the high price paid for the shops tended to promote dealings in smuggled opium. Sales were conducted under the eye of a Resident Excise Officer. But with effect from November 1931 the sale of opium at Government opium shops by licensed vendors was discontinued, the licencees' functions being transferred to Government Resident Excise Officers, save that in a few places where there was no Government Sub-Treasury, the licencee system was continued as a temporary measure. Temporary staffs were also entertained to assist these Resident Excise Officers in cutting, weighing and selling the opium.

The Resident Excise Officers who replaced the licensed vendors obtained their supplies of Excise opium or confiscated Excise or foreign opium direct from the Treasury or Sub-Treasury and sold them at the fixed retail prices crediting the proceeds into the Treasury or Sub-Treasury.

Opium was issued to the few remaining licensed vendors (17 in 1932-33) at the wholesale rates specified in paragraph 60. The opium was retailed by the licencees or the Resident Excise Officers who conducted the sales on behalf of Government at a fixed price ranging from Rs. 2, to Rs. 2-6-0, per tola in Lower Burma. In Upper Burma the retail price was generally Rs. 2-4 per tola, but this rate was reduced in areas which afforded special facilities for smuggling. Special rates for the sale of confiscated foreign opium in Frontier Districts ranged from annas 8 per tola to Rs. 1-14, per tola in 1932-33. In 1912-13 the fixed price at which the licencees retailed

opium was generally Rs. 1-4-0 per tola for raw opium and Rs. 1-8-0 per tola for prepared opium. It may be mentioned that, apart from the restrictions imposed on retail sales by the ordinary limit of private possession of opium it was further required that the amount of retail sales should, in the case of each consumer, be restricted with reference to his means and his personal consumption.

The working of the special arrangements made for the prevention of opium consumption by persons who had not registered themselves and of opium smuggling required large preventive establishments. The average monthly cost of these in 1932-33 was Rs. 1,08,152.

61. "*Medical Practitioners*" that is persons who had a recognised diploma and practised medicine according to European methods, were allowed to possess such quantities of opium and its preparations as they required for the purposes of their profession. "Doctors" (meaning persons who practise medicine according to Asiatic methods) pharmacists and tattooers had to take out yearly licences to deal in the drugs in question. The sale of morphia and its compounds was, however, permitted only by dealers and chemists specially licensed in that behalf. Tattooers could not sell opium or its preparations of any kind, but could use the drugs (other than morphia and its compounds) in their operations. The licence fees were Rs. 10, for a pharmacist, Rs. 5, for a doctor and Rs. 3, for a tattooer.

One hundred and twenty-six of these special licences were issued in 1932-33. In the preceding year the number of such licences was 139, against 316 in the year 1912-13.

62. *Consumption and Average Taxation.*—Inclusive of confiscated contraband opium the total consumption in 1932-33, amounted to 520 maunds from which Rs. 32,89,762, was realized by way of duty and sale proceeds. The average taxation per seer was thus Rs. 158·06 (duty).

In 1931-32 the total consumption of opium amounted to 482 maunds against 1,192 maunds in 1912-13, and the average taxation per seer during these years amounted to Rs. 154·2 and Rs. 78·0 (duty) respectively.

The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of the population in 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33, was 4·5, 1·5 and 1·6 seers respectively.

The quantity of confiscated contraband opium found fit for use and sold amounted to about 59 maunds in 1932-33, against 49 maunds in the preceding year, and 35 maunds during the year 1912-13.

63. *Poppy heads.*—Poppy heads were retailed by medical practitioners, licensed pharmacists and Burman doctors for medicinal purposes.

64. *Import.*—(*a*) Opium could be imported by sea (by means other than that of the post) into Burma, by a medical practitioner or pharmacist.

On opium thus imported by medical practitioners or pharmacists a duty of Rs. 24 a seer was levied under Schedule III of the Indian Tariff Act, 1894.

(*b*) Opium could be imported by land by travellers of distinction entering Burma from the Shan States. Such persons were permitted to bring a small quantity of opium into Burma for their private consumption and not for sale, or barter.

65. *Smuggling and Seizures of Opium and the Shan States Opium Order of 1923.*—Since 1918-19 there had been a big increase in seizures of contraband opium, as exhibited in the following table:—

	Seizures in seers.	
1918-19	894	
1919-20	1,335	
1920-21	2,957	
1921-22	2,755	
1922-23	2,378	
1923-24	3,355	
1924-25	3,436	
1925-26	7,913	
1926-27	4,748	
1927-28	4,695	
1928-29	4,890*	*Revised figure.
1929-30	6,252	
1930-31	9,126	
1931-32	6,007	
1932-33	7,932	

Since the passing of the Shan States Opium Order, 1923, some progress had been made towards the effective control of opium cultivation and consumption.

The greater part of the so-called "Shan" opium, which finds its way into Burma is really Yunnanese opium. The prevalence of illicit opium on the Chinese frontier made it necessary to take steps to strengthen the preventive force in the frontier districts. This was done in March 1929.

66. *Number of Opium Smokers.*—The total number of registered smokers throughout the province at the close of the year was 12,720 Chinese, 4,196 Burmans and 369 Indians.

67. *Offences and Convictions under the Opium Act.*—It will be seen from paragraph 65 above that the amount of opium seized in 1932-33 increased by 32·04 per cent. The number of arrests 2,800 in 1932-33 showed a decrease of 110 or 3·78 per cent, from the previous year's figures. The percentage of convictions to arrests rose from 70·6 to 79·7. In Rangoon, seizures amounted to 1,84,081 tolas of opium. In 1912-13, 2,959 persons were arrested, and 2,481 convicted for offences relating to opium. The percentage of convictions to arrests during the year was 83·8. The total quantity of opium seized during 1912-13 was 1,21,840 tolas.

68. 3,500 grains of illicit morphia were seized and only one person was arrested in connection with morphia in 1932-33. In 1931-32 no seizure of illicit morphia was made. There was no demand for illicit morphia, except in Rangoon, and even in Rangoon the demand was unimportant.

CHAPTER VI.

BIHAR AND ORISSA.

69. *Revenue.*—The revenue from opium for the year 1932-33 including treasury price Rs. 3,45,330 on issues to Foreign and Feudatory States, amounted to Rs. 25,46,360 of which Rs. 19,00,800 were derived from the treasury price and the balance from license fees. In 1931-32, the total revenue from this drug amounted to Rs. 26,70,808, against Rs. 12,15,451 in the year 1912-13.

70. *Supply.*—The supply was obtained from the Opium Factory at Ghazipur. The opium was made into cakes weighing one seer each, 60 of which were packed in a case. It was supplied direct from the Ghazipur Factory to district and sub-divisional treasuries for sale to licensed vendors.

71. *Treasury price.*—During 1932-33 opium was sold from the district and sub-divisional treasuries at a fixed price of Rs. 90 per seer to licensed vendors and licensed druggists only. The above rate included the cost price of opium which was taken at Rs. 18-6-0, per seer. The total quantity of opium sold in 1932-33 was 527 maunds and 29 seers including 95 maunds and 37 seers issued to the Feudatory States, etc., and the sale-proceeds amounted to Rs. 19,00,800, giving an average rate of Rs. 90 per seer (including cost price). The average rate of duty per seer in 1931-32 was Rs. 90 (including cost price) against Rs. 19-4-0, excluding cost price in the year 1912-13.

72. *Retail vend and total average taxation.*—The sliding scale system was in force in all the districts of the province from April to June 1932. From 1st July 1932, the shops in the districts of Patna, Purnea and Ranchi were settled under the auction system and from 1st October 1932, this system was extended to the shops in all other districts of the province except Angul and Sambalpur. The total number of shops settled in 1932-33 was 528 and the receipts from license fees amounted to Rs. 6,45,560. In 1931-32 the number of shops licensed to retail opium was 510 and 563 in 1912-13, and the revenue from license fees during these years amounted to Rs. 6,23,128 and Rs. 3,24,645 respectively. On a consumption of 431 maunds and 32 seers, the license fees gave an average taxation of Rs. 37·3 per seer. The total taxation exclusive of the cost price per seer was thus Rs. 71·6 *plus* Rs. 37·3 or Rs. 108·9 per seer. In 1931-32 the quantity of opium consumed in the province was 464 maunds and 11 seers, against 926 maunds in 1912-13. In 1931-32 and 1912-13, the total taxation per seer of opium was Rs. 104·9 (Rs. 33·5 from license fees and the balance from duty) and Rs. 28·1 (Rs. 8·7 from license fees and the balance from duty) respectively.

The consumption of opium on shop premises was forbidden.

73. *Druggists' licenses.*—Druggists were granted permits for the sale of opium, preparations thereof (other than those used for smoking the sale of which was absolutely forbidden) and poppy-heads for medicinal purposes only, on payment of a nominal fee of Re. 1 per annum. The supply for this purpose was ordinarily limited to one seer of opium, one seer of preparations or opium not being smoking preparations and 10 seers of poppy-heads. In 1932-33 there were 285 druggists' licenses for the retail sale of opium and its preparations, against 270 in the preceding year and 121 in

1912-13. The druggists obtained their supplies from certain specified sources only, *viz.* :—

(*a*) opium, by purchase from a licensed retail vendor or a Government treasury or, with the sanction of the Collector, from another licensed druggist on the expiry of the latter's permit or by import from foreign countries under a permit from the Excise Commissioner;

(*b*) preparation of opium, not being smoking preparations, by purchase from another licensed druggist, or by manufacture on their own account from opium lawfully possessed by them, or by import from foreign countries under a permit from the Excise Commissioner;

(*c*) poppy-heads, by purchase from a licensed retail vendor or another licensed druggist under the conditions mentioned in clause (*a*) above. As already stated, sales by licensed druggists were permitted for *bonâ fide* medicinal purposes only. They could not ordinarily be in quantities exceeding those allowed for private possession (paragraph 77 below) but sales to other licensed druggists could be made in excess of those quantities under the conditions mentioned above. Separate licenses were issued for the sale of morphia drugs by dealers and chemists in such a manner as was specified in their licenses.

74. No permit was required for the sale by qualified medical practitioners of medicinal preparations containing opium, except morphia and preparations thereof. The expression "qualified medical practitioners" has been defined in the Provincial Opium Rules as meaning only:—

(i) Any person registered as a medical practitioner under the Medical Act, 1858, or any Act of Parliament amending the same, or under any law for the registration of medical practitioners for the time being in force in any part of British India, or

(ii) any person registered as a dentist under the Dentist Act, 1878, or any act of Parliament amending the same, or

(iii) any person possessed of qualifications which rendered him eligible for registration as a medical practitioner or dentist, as the case may be, under the Medical Act, 1858, the Dentist's Act, 1878, or any Act of Parliament amending the same Acts, or under any law for the registration of medical practitioners or dentists for the time being in force in any part of British India and approved by the Collector for the purpose of these rules or of corresponding rules for the time being in force in any part of British India;

(iv) any other person engaged in medical, dental or veterinary practice and approved by the Excise Commissioner for the purpose of these rules or corresponding rules for the time being in force in any part of British India.

75. *Intoxicating drugs.*—The manufacture and sale of intoxicating drugs prepared from opium (other than smoking preparations) by licensed druggists were permitted for medicinal purposes, as stated in the preceding paragraph. The manufacture was also allowed for private consumption from opium

in the lawful possession of the manufacturer, up to a limit of three tolas, except morphia and its preparations of which private manufacture was not allowed.

The sale of smoking preparations was not permissible; but they could be privately manufactured by the smoker from opium in his lawful possession, and then only in quantities not exceeding half a tola at a time.

With a view to regulating the smoking of opium in the Province, the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council passed a bill, intending to prohibit opium smoking directly and to make an exception only in favour of registered addicts, on the 20th January, 1928. The Act came into force from 1st January, 1929. 5,979 persons were registered under the Act up to 31st December, 1931, when the register was closed.

Certain recognised medicinal preparations, which contained opium in very small quantities, were exempted from the restrictions imposed by the rules.

76. *Poppy-heads.*—No separate licenses were issued for the sale of poppy-heads during the year 1932-33. They could be retailed by licensed druggists for medicinal purposes only.

77. *Private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession was one tola and a half of Excise opium and ten tolas of poppy-heads. Morphia and its preparations could be possessed in such quantity as was at one time dispensed and sold under a qualified medical practitioner's prescription. Smoking preparations, which had been made by an individual for his personal consumption from opium in his lawful possession, could be possessed up to half a tola or, in the case of five or more persons assembled together for the purpose of smoking, up to two and a half tolas.

78. *Import.*—Opium, alkaloids of opium, or any intoxicating drugs made from the poppy, or any preparation or admixture thereof, could be imported by sea or by land from outside British India only by means other than the post, and only by persons who had obtained a permit for the purpose from the Excise Commissioner. Persons coming into Bihar and Orissa were allowed, subject to a definite restriction as to quantity, to retain possession of opium which they had with them for their personal consumption. Otherwise import of opium into the Province was not allowed, except on behalf of the Government.

79. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of cases of smuggling of opium in 1932-33 was 5 against 4 in the preceding year, the total seizures being 66 seers against 4 seers in the previous year. The total number of persons convicted for offences against the Opium Act was 69 against 58 in the year 1931-32 and 81 in 1912-13.

80. *Average consumption.*—Calculated on the census figures in 1931, the consumption in 1932-33 (431 maunds and 32 seers) worked out to 0·5 seer per 1,000 of population. It was highest in the Orissa division. In 1931-32 the average consumption of opium per 1,000 was 0·49 seer, against 1·1 seer in 1912-13.

CHAPTER VII.

United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

81. The total receipts from opium for the year ending 31st March, 1933, amounted to Rs. 20·12 lakhs of which Rs. 9·96 lakhs were derived from duty. In 1931-32, the total opium revenue amounted to Rs. 20·68 lakhs of which Rs. 10·17 lakhs were realised from duty. The total opium revenue for 1912-13, amounted to Rs. 11·99 lakhs of which Rs. 8·18 lakhs were derived from duty.

82. *Supply.*—The supply was obtained from the Government Factory at Ghazipur. Opium used to be sold at all the district treasuries and certain specified sub-treasuries to licensed vendors and licensed druggists in half-seer and one seer cakes at a fixed price. The cost price of opium was then credited to Central Revenue as soon as an issue was made from the factory.

The inhabitants of certain portions of Jaunsar Bawar Pargana in the hill tracts of Dehra Dun district were permitted to cultivate poppy and to extract opium for private use. The possibility of prohibiting cultivation on the revision of the current settlement in 1934 was being investigated.

83. *Issue price, duty and consumption.*—Licensed vendors and licensed druggists were supplied during the year with seer cakes at Rs: 70 and half-seer cakes at Rs. 35. Rs. 18-6-0 per seer of this price represented the cost price of the article and the balance (Rs. 51-10-0) represented the Excise duty. In 1912-13, the price at which farmers, non-official licensed vendors and licensed druggists were supplied, varied from Rs. 18 to Rs. 22 for full seer cakes of opium, of this price, Rs. 8½ were credited to 'Opium' revenue and the balance represented the 'Excise' duty.

Opium was supplied from treasuries at cost price (Rs. 18-9-0 per seer in 1931-32 and Rs. 8½ per seer in 1912-13) to district board and charitable dispensaries on a certificate of the Civil Surgeon.

The Rampur State was supplied from the Moradabad Treasury with 20 maunds of Excise opium at cost price (Rs. 18-6-0 per seer) and as much more as the State desire to purchase, at Rs. 67 per seer. The Benares State gets 500 seers of opium annually at cost price direct from the Opium Factory at Ghazipur.

The total quantity of opium sold in the year ending 31st March, 1933, was 482 maunds, against 494 maunds in 1930-31 and 1,609 maunds in 1912-13. The duty credited to Excise in 1932-33 was 9·96 lakhs compared with 10·17 lakhs in 1931-32 and 8·81 lakhs in 1912-13.

84. *Retail vend and total incidence of taxation.*—The total number of shops for the retail vend of opium in 1932-33, was 965. Rs. 6·61 lakhs were realised as licence fees from these shops on a total issue of 482 maunds which gives an incidence of 34·2 per seer. In 1931-32, the number of shops for the retail vend of opium was 936 against 1,094 including official vend in 1912-13. The receipts from licence fees in 1931-32, amounted to Rs. 6·83 lakhs against Rs. 3·81 lakhs in 1912-13. The incidence of licence fees per seer of opium in 1931-32, amounted to Rs. 34·5 against Rs. 5·9 in 1912-13. Licensees were selected and fees assessed in the same manner as in the case of shops selling country spirit and hemp drugs under the graduated surcharge system. The official vend of opium at the treasuries and sub-treasuries was abolished in 1922.

85. *Licensed Druggists.*—Approved druggists might obtain licences for sale for medicinal purposes only of opium and *bona fide* medicinal preparations containing opium. In 1932-33, 258 such licences were issued. In 1931-32, the number of druggists' licences was 260 against 203 in the year 1912-13.

86. *Manufacture of intoxicating drugs.*—Medicinal preparations containing opium could be prepared and sold for medicinal purposes, by licensed druggists only. Licensed retail vendors sell only Excise opium as issued from the Ghazipur Factory.

87. Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold but could be prepared from opium lawfully possessed for the consumption of the person so possessing it.

88. *Private possession.*—Any person may possess opium to the extent of two tolas.

89. *Import.*—Import was allowed only on behalf of Government, but medicinal preparations containing opium could be obtained from other provinces by licensed druggists under a pass.

The importers of medicinal opium, morphia and preparations of morphia had to obtain import certificates and import authorisations as prescribed by the Geneva Convention, 1925. Import of morphia and its preparations from other provinces was permitted by post under certain restrictions.

90. Special rules regarding the sale of opium derivatives other than prepared opium by chemists and druggists were brought into force in 1932 under the Dangerous Drugs Act. The rules were analogous in the main to those regulating the sale of cocaine and allied drugs. The number of such licences in 1932-33, was 248 against 269, in 1931-32.

91. *Important changes or new legislation.*—The more important administrative change effected during the year, was that the cost price of opium was reduced by the Government of India from Rs. 18-9-0 to Rs. 18-6-0 a seer. The rate of duty in the United Provinces was, consequently, increased from Rs. 51-7-0 to Rs. 51-10-0 a seer with the issue price remaining at Rs. 70 a seer as in the last year.

92. *Prosecutions and convictions.*—Seizures of Malwa opium effected in this province and in other provinces indicate that smuggling of the drug from the Indian States of Rajputana and Central India into Bengal and Bihar and Orissa through the United Provinces continued to flourish. Some Afghan opium also found its way into other provinces through the United Provinces.

Petty smuggling of opium from the Indian States, the Punjab, Delhi, Nepal and other neighbouring Hill States for private consumption continued and the evil cannot be stopped so long as a disparity in prices exists.

The smuggling of Crude and Factory opium was not very extensive though some traffic was inevitable.

The total number of cases under the Opium Laws in 1932-33 was 485 (474). It was 342 in 1912-13.

There were 73 cases (60) in 1932-33 under the United Provinces Smoking Act of 1925.

Government has given an undertaking to suppress gradually the habit of opium smoking and necessary legislation on the subject was under consideration.

The total quantity of contraband opium seized during the year was 4 maunds 9 seers (3 maunds 3 seers).

Cases of embezzlement by cultivators numbered 31 (4) in 1932-33.

CHAPTER VIII

PUNJAB.

93. *Revenue.*—The revenue from opium in the Punjab for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 30·58 lakhs of which Rs. 0·39 lakhs was derived from import and transport duty and acreage taxation, as against Rs. 32·67 and 1·04 lakhs in the preceding year and Rs. 12·24 lakhs and Rs. 6·41 lakhs respectively in 1912-13.

94. *Supply and duty.*—Most of the opium consumed in the Punjab was excise opium from the Government Opium Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces. 932 seers of Hill opium grown in Kulu Sub-division in Kangra district, and Kot Khai tahsil in Simla district were consumed. Although opium grown in the Hill States under the control of the Punjab Government or the Agent to the Governor-General, Punjab States may lawfully be consumed in the Punjab, no such opium was imported in 1932-33 into the Punjab for illicit consumption. A transport duty of Rs. 46 for Kulu opium and Rs. 47 for Kot Khai opium and an import duty of Rs. 47 for Hill States Opium per seer was levied on all Hill opium consumed in the Punjab. Consumption was only permitted in the division of Jullundur and the districts of Lahore and Amritsar. Most of the Hill opium consumed in the Punjab found its way to Ferozepur district, and even there it was rapidly losing ground to the purer and more potent Excise Opium produced at Ghazipur. Large quantities of Hill Opium were smuggled into from the Hill States into the Punjab, and into the Punjab States in the plains where the cultivation of Poppy was not allowed. It released large quantities of Excise opium for smuggling to Calcutta and the Far East. Malwa opium was also smuggled in large quantities into the districts of the Southern Punjab from the States of Rajputana.

95. *Poppy heads.*—The cultivation of poppy for the production of poppy heads only (*post*) was permitted in the Jullundur district and Hoshiarpur tehsil, where an acreage duty was levied. In 1929-30 this stood at Rs. 8 per acre. On September 1st, 1930, it was raised to Rs. 12 and on October 1st, 1931, to Rs. 24 per acre.

96. *Post* is used as a cheap substitute for Opium and its use is increasing. The average annual acreage from 1925 to 1932 was 982 acres as compared with 590 from 1920 to 1925 and 329 from 1915 to 1920.

97. *Arrangements for vend.*—Wholesale vend licenses, for which fee of Rs. 16 was charged, covered the purchase of opium or Poppy heads from licensed cultivators. Excise opium used to be issued direct from treasuries to retail vendors, who had obtained their licenses by public auction held at the same time as the auction of liquor licenses. The receipt from license fees in 1932-33 was Rs. 9·83 lakhs as against Rs. 10·72 lakhs in the preceding year and Rs. 5·83 lakhs in 1912-13.

98. *Total consumption, average taxation and retail price.*—The total consumption of Excise and Hill Opium amounted to 728 and 23 maunds in 1932-33 as against 747 and 28 maunds in the previous year. The issue price of Excise Opium from treasuries was Rs. 70 per seer, of which Rs. 18-6-0 was for the cost of production charged by the Opium Factory at Ghazipur and Rs. 51-10-0 was the duty. The maximum retail price was fixed at Rs. 1-4-0 per tola. The number of wholesale and retail

vendors was 32 and 677 in 1932-33 as against 37 and 676 in the previous year, and 103 and 902 in 1912-13.

99. *Druggist's Licenses.*—Licenses were issued on a fee of Rs. 10 by the Collector for the retail vend of Opium for medicinal purposes only. 94 licenses were issued in 1932-33 as against 151 in the previous year and 278 in 1912-13.

100. *Limit of private possession.*—The ordinary limit for private possession without a license was two tolas of opium, two seers of Poppy heads and half a tola of preparations of opium made for smoking. Morphine and its compound could only be possessed up to the limit detailed on a prescription. Opium had to be prepared for smoking by the smoker himself.

101. *Opium Smoking Act.*—The smoking of opium in company was prohibited in all municipalities and cantonments under the Punjab Opium Smoking Act, since April 1st, 1924. 101 persons were arrested under this Act in 1932-33 as compared with 81 persons in the previous year.

102. *Import.*—Raw opium could be imported by licensed vendors only and medicinal opium and medicinal preparations containing opium could be imported only under the authorisation of the Financial Commissioner.

103. *Average consumption.*—The average consumption of opium in the Punjab in 1932-33 worked out to 1·2 seers per thousand of the population. The highest consumption was recorded in Lahore district. Any further restriction would tend to encourage an increase in the consumption of country spirit, which would certainly result in an outburst of violent crime.

CHAPTER IX.

CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR.

104. *Revenue.*—Including cost price of opium, the opium revenue for the year 1931 amounted to Rs. 23,26,000*, of which Rs. 13,55,000, were derived from issue price† and the balance from license fees. In 1931, the opium revenue amounted to Rs. 27,87,000, against Rs. 19,28,000 in 1912-13. The receipts from issue price in 1931 were Rs. 15,75,000. compared with Rs. 11,20,000 (duty only) in 1912-13.

105. *Supply and duty.*—Cultivation of the poppy was not permitted in the Central Provinces and Berar. Opium was supplied from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces to the treasuries and excise warehouses. The cost price of opium was reduced from Rs. 18-9-0 to Rs. 18-6-0 per seer throughout the province, with effect from 1st April 1932. The issue price was fixed at Rs. 90 per seer throughout the province, with effect from 1st January 1929 and remained unchanged during 1932. In 1912-13 opium was issued to licensed vendors at Rs. 27-8-0 a seer, and the cost price of opium was Rs. 8½ a seer.

106. *Privileged issues to Feudatory Chiefs.*—District treasuries in the Central Provinces also supplied the Feudatory Chiefs of the Province who had agreed to obtain all the opium required in their territories in this way. The issue price charged to these States is Rs. 5 a seer less than that fixed for British districts, that is, for Rs. 85 a seer, except in the case of the five States‡ transferred from Bengal in 1905, which were charged the full price of Rs. 90 a seer.

The total issues in 1932 amounted to 320 maunds to retail dealers and 59 maunds to Feudatory Chiefs against 376 maunds to retail vendors and 65 maunds to Feudatory Chiefs in the preceding year and 1,362 maunds to retail vendors and 153 maunds to Feudatory Chiefs in 1912-13.

107. *Retail vend and average taxation.*—Shops for the retail vend of opium were sanctioned in specified localities, and the right of selling therein was disposed of by auction, by separate shops. The total number of shops sanctioned in 1932 was 788 against 792 in 1931 and 1,047 in 1912-13; and the license fees amounted to Rs. 9,71,000 in 1932 against Rs. 12,12,000 in 1931 and Rs. 8,08,000 in 1912-13. On a consumption of 320 maunds in 1932, the revenue from license fees gave an average taxation of Rs. 75·9 per seer; adding issue price the general average taxation on licit opium consumed in the province comes to Rs. 165·9 per seer. In 1931 the total average taxation per seer of licit opium amounted to Rs. 170·7 (Rs. 80·7 from vend fees) against Rs. 33·8 (Rs. 14·8 from vend fees) in 1912-13.

108. *Druggists' licenses.*—Under the Opium Rules in force in the Central Provinces and Berar druggists could be licensed by the Deputy Commissioner of a district to retail (subject to a maximum limit of stock)

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* The statistics of revenue are in each case given to the nearest thousand rupees.

† Including cost price of opium referred to in paragraph 108 and issue price on issues to the Feudatory Chiefs referred to in paragraph 109.

‡ Jashpur, Sirguja, Udaipur, Koria and Changbhakar.

opium and its preparations (other than those used for smoking) and poppy-heads* for medicinal purposes only. Twenty such licenses were granted in the year 1932 as against 14 in 1931 and 2 in 1912-13.

109. *Intoxicating drugs.*—Intoxicating drugs prepared from opium, and not being smoking preparations, could be prepared and sold for medicinal purposes only by licensed druggists. Private persons could prepare non-smoking preparations of opium (other than morphia and its preparations) for their own use from opium in their lawful possession, to the extent to which they were authorised to possess it (*vide* paragraph 111).

Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold, and could be manufactured by the smoker for his own use from opium of which he was lawfully in possession.

110. *Poppy heads.*—The druggists' licenses referred to in paragraph 108 above included the right of retail sale of poppy-heads for medicinal purposes.

111. *Private possession.*—The limit of possession in the Central Provinces and Berar was (*a*) in the case of private persons, half a tola of opium or of intoxicating drugs (other than smoking preparations) prepared therefrom, such quantity of morphia as was prescribed by an approved medical practitioner, and 5 seers of poppy heads, and (*b*) in the case of licensed druggists, one seer of opium or intoxicating drugs (other than smoking preparations) prepared therefrom, such quantity of morphia as had been specified in his license and 10 seers of poppy-heads.

112. *Import.*—Except in the case of through consignments of pure opium for other provinces, which could pass through by specified routes under a pass granted by the Opium Agent at Indore or one of his authorized assistants, import was allowed only on behalf of Government and private persons for their personal use, up to the limit of their private possession. The import of preparations of opium (other than those used for smoking) in excess of that limit was allowed only in the case of licensed druggists and approved practitioners, under a permit, to be obtained from the Excise Commissioner for each consignment.

113. *Important changes.*—The Central Provinces Opium Smoking Act 1929 (IV of 1929), with the exception of section 7, came into force from the 1st June and 1st July 1929, in the Central Provinces and Berar, respectively. The Act prohibits opium smoking in the company of two or more persons. Any person who kept or used any place for the purposes of an opium smoking assembly, or, who had the care or management of such place, or, who being the owner or occupier of such place failed to give notice of an opium smoking assembly to the authorities, was liable to punishment under the Act. Section 7, which totally prohibited the smoking of opium will come into operation three years after the remaining sections are in force.

The Dangerous Drugs Act came into force with effect from the 1st February 1931 in Central Provinces and from 7th February 1931 in Berar and the opium rules are under revision.

The issue price of opium remained unchanged at Rs. 90 per seer throughout the province.

On account of the depressed economic conditions, enforcement of the Opium Smoking Act, high selling rates, smuggling from Central India

* There are no restrictions on the possession, import, export, transport transit or sale of poppy-heads which have been lanced and dried or from which the juice has been extracted.

States in the bordering districts and the closure of 17 shops total consumption of opium in 1932 fell from 376 maunds in 1931 to 320 maunds.

114. *Offences and convictions.*—The total number of offences relating to opium was 1,009 in 1932 against 812 in the preceding year and 476 in the year 1912-13. The number of offences relating to opium smuggling in 1932 rose to 143 from 70 in 1931. In 1912-13 the number of cases of smuggling of opium was 11. The total quantity of contraband opium seized in 1932 was 18 maunds, 49 seers and 27 tolas against 30 seers and 22 tolas in 1931 and 16 seers in 1912-13. Offences relating to the sale of Treasury opium numbered 49 against 40 in the preceding year and 31 in 1912-13, those relating to the possession in excess of the legal limit 18 against 132 in 1931, and 41 in 1912-13 and those pertaining to madat 329 against 224 in 1931 and 5 in 1912-13.

115. Calculated on the census population of 1931, the consumption of opium in 1932 (320 maunds, excluding issue to Feudatory Chiefs) worked out to 0·8 seers per 1,000 of the population. It was highest in the Narsinghpur sub-division of Hoshangabad district, Amraoti, Balaghat, Akola and Seoni sub-division of Chhindwara district. In 1931 the average consumption of opium per 1,000 was 1·0 seer against 3·9 seers in 1912-13

CHAPTER X.

ASSAM.

116. *Revenue.*—The opium revenue for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 21·20 lakhs. Of this Rs. 2·61 lakhs represented the cost price of opium, Rs. 10·89 lakhs the duty on opium and the balance was derived from license fees. Corresponding figures in 1931-32 were total revenue Rs. 27·74 lakhs, of which Rs. 3·12 lakhs represented the cost price of opium and Rs. 12·84 lakhs duty. The decrease in revenue was due to lower consumption. In 1912-13 the total revenue was Rs. 27·38 lakhs of which Rs. 20·48 lakhs represented cost price and duty.

117. *Supply and duty.*—The supply was obtained in one seer cakes from the Opium Factory, Ghazipur. There were no licensed vendors in the Lushai Hills and the Garo Hills. Elsewhere opium was issued from the Sub-divisional Treasuries to licensed vendors and licensed druggists at the fixed price of Rs. ·95 per seer throughout the province (duty Rs. 76-10-0 and cost price of Rs. 18-6-0). The high rate of duty was rendered possible by the fact that the people were largely addicted to opium consumption. Assam was in fact, an opium producing tract before it became part of British India. The high price and the restriction of issues of licit opium have however attracted smugglers. *Illicit* opium now comes into the province though the annual seizures are small.

118. *Registration of opium consumers and the pass system....*The system of restricting the issues of opium to pass holders continued in force throughout the province. At the beginning of the year 1932-33 there were 74,875 pass-holders with a monthly ration of 39 maunds 8 seers 66 tolas. In pursuance of the policy of Government, the rations of persons under 50 years of age as they stood on 1st April 1932 were further reduced during the year in the plains districts so as to bring them to 50 per cent. of what they were on 1st April 1928. In the Backward and Frontier Tracts however, no cut was made. At the same time steps were taken to renew under proper safe-guards temporary passes already issued to previously unregistered addicts and to issue new temporary passes to new comers into the province and to persons who could produce satisfactory proof of addiction. Deducting passes cancelled on account of death or transfer of consumers from the province the total number of pass-holders at the close of the year was 69,605 with a monthly ration of 33 mds.-17 srs.-11 tolas. The amount of treasury opium issued during the year worked out at 8 grains per diem per registered consumer.

119. *Retail Vend.*—The number and sites of retail shops were fixed in consultation with Local Boards and Municipalities and the right of selling at each was disposed of for one year by tender by the vend fee system under which lessees pay a fixed rate for each seer of opium issued to them. In the settlement of shops preference was given to a tenderer who was prepared to pay 2 months' fees in advance over and above the usual fees deposited as security. The experimental sale of opium by official vendors at Wakching and Kohima in the Naga Hills continued. The sale of opium in pill form continued in a garden in the Lakhimpur district and was popular. The stock was however to be exhausted in that year. As the Government of India were unable meantime to continue the manufacture of pills in the Ghazipur Opium Factory, there was little hope

of a further supply of opium tablets. During the year two seers of opium were, however, given to a private chemist in Calcutta to test the feasibility of the manufacturing of opium tablets by means of ordinary pill-making machinery. The results of the experiment were under observation. The number of shops settled in 1932-33 was 297 as against 294 in 1931-32 and 402 in 1912-13. The amount paid in vend fees in 1932-33 was 7·70 lakhs as against Rs. 11·77 lakhs in 1931-32 and Rs. 6·90 lakhs in 1912-13.

120. *Consumption and average taxation.*—The opium issued to vendors in 1932-33 amounted to 355 maunds 24 seers as compared with 422 maunds 25 seers in 1931-32 and 1,551 maunds in 1912-13. The fifth annual 10 per cent reduction in the rations of persons below 50 years of age in the plains districts, the general economic depression and deaths of pass-holders were the main reasons for the decrease in consumption. There was not the least doubt that quantities of opium reached Assam from other places such as Cooch Behar, Behar and Orissa, Nepal, Tripura State and China and that the restrictive measures were hampered thereby. The average taxation per seer in 1932-33 was Rs. 149·08 as against Rs. 164·14 in 1931-32 and Rs. 44·1 in 1912-13.

121. *Druggists' licenses and intoxicating drugs.*—The rules regarding druggists' licenses and intoxicating drugs were similar to those in force in Bengal. Fifty druggists' permits were issued in 1932-33 as against 58 in 1931-32 and 3 in 1912-13.

122. *Private possession.*—Subject to the holding of a pass the ordinary limit of private possession of raw opium was 3 tolas in the Hill districts and Frontier Tracts and 2 tolas in the plains districts or the amount of the monthly ration whichever was less. Opium could also be possessed on the prescription of a medical practitioner. Medical practitioners and druggists were allowed to possess up to 10 tolas of raw opium or 10 seers of poppy heads on special permit. The sale or delivery of opium to any person apparently under the age of 20 years whether for consumption by such persons or by any other person, was strictly prohibited.

123. *Import.*—The import by sea of opium derivatives and medicinal preparations was governed by the rules framed under Section 7 (2) of the Dangerous Drugs Act.

124. *Important changes relating to opium.*—(*a*) In March 1933 the Legislative Council decided to appoint a Committee for the purpose of reviewing the results of the present opium policy of Government and advising as to the future policy to be adopted in the light of the conclusions arrived at by the Enquiry Committee appointed by the League of Nations. The report of the Committee has just been published.

(*b*) Fees for licenses for the sale of morphia drugs, cocaine or coca derivatives and medicinal hemp by chemists and druggists were prescribed and published under section 8 (2) of the Dangerous Drugs Act.

(*c*) The Assam Opium Smoking Act was amended by the Assam Opium Smoking (Amendment) Act, 1932, with a view to empower Sub-Inspectors of Excise to take action under Section 12 and to make a complaint under Section 18 of the main Act.

(*d*) The Opium Act I of 1878 was amended with a view to enhancing the punishment that could be imposed especially for repeated offences.

125. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of offences relating to opium in 1932-33 was 310 as against 298 in 1931-32 and 39 in 1912-13.

Out of these, cases of illicit possession of Excise Opium in 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33 were 22, 108 (revised) and 180 respectively. The number of cases of unlicensed sale of excise opium in 1932-33 was 15 as against 82 in 1931-32 and 16 in 1912-13. Cases of poppy cultivation fell from 21 in 1931-32 to 16 to 1932-33. In one raid in the Mikir Hills in Nowgong some 39,000 poppy plants were found.

126. *Average consumption.*—The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of population in 1932-33 was 1·7 seers as compared with 1·9 seers in 1931-32 and 9·4 seers in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XI.

North-West Frontier Province.

127. *Revenue.*—The Opium revenue for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 1,67,519-10-6, of which Rs. 1,03,430 were derived from sale proceeds and Rs. 64,060 from vend fee. In 1931-32, the revenue from opium amounted to Rs. 2,10,411 (Rs. 1,33,630 from sale proceeds and the balance from vend fee) against Rs. 1·9 lakhs (·55 lakh from sale proceeds and the balance from vend fee) in the year 1912-13.

128. *Sources of supply and rates of duty.*—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited in the Province and the source of supply of opium was through Government Opium Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces.

129. *Import.*—The conditions under which opium was imported from the United Provinces were as follows:—

The N.-W. F. Province obtained from the Government Factory at Ghazipur in the United Provinces its yearly supply of Excise Opium based on the estimated requirements. This opium was issued to licensed vendors from Government treasuries at a price of Rs. 70 a seer. From this must be deducted Rs. 18-6 per seer credited to the Opium Department as the cost price of opium *plus* freightage. The balance *viz.*, Rs. 51-10-0 per seer represents the Excise Duty levied in the Province. The rate of duty of this opium in 1931-32 was Rs. 51-7-0 per seer, as against Rs. 9-8-0 in 1912-13. The receipts from duty on Excise Opium in the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 50,478, Rs. 98,194 and Rs. 76,302, respectively.

130. *Vend arrangements.*—Wholesale vend licenses were not much in request and there was only one such license in each of the years 1931-32 and 1932-33, as compared with 2 in 1912-13.

Retail licenses were disposed of by separate shops, the fee for each shop being determined annually by public auction. The number of sites of shops were fixed by the Collector in each district. The total number of retail vend licenses issued in 1932-33 was 52 as against 58 in 1931-32 and 70 in 1912-13. The receipts from license fee amounted to Rs. 64,060 as against Rs. 76,781 in the preceding year and Rs. 64,000 in 1912-13.

131. *Total consumption and average taxation.*—The total consumption of opium in 1932-33 was 1,478 seers, as compared with 1909 in the preceding year and 5,713 seers in the year 1912-13. The average total taxation of opium consumed in the province amounted to Rs. 94·96 (Rs. 51·62 from duty and Rs. 43·34 from vend fee) in 1932-33, against Rs. 91·65 (Rs. 51·43 from duty and Rs. 40·22 from vend fee) in the preceding year and Rs. 20·8 (Rs. 9·6 from duty and Rs. 11·2 from vend fee) in 1912-13.

132. *Druggists licenses.*—Medical practitioners and druggists could obtain licenses free of fee from a Collector for retail vend, (for medicinal purposes only) of opium and its preparations, and of poppy heads. In each of years 1932-33 and 1931-32, 19 such licenses were granted against 65 in the year 1912-13.

133. *Intoxicating drugs, etc., and poppy heads.*—The sale of intoxicating drugs made from opium was practically confined to licensed druggists, who were authorised to sell opium (other than preparations and admixtures used for smoking) in all forms and poppy heads for medicinal purposes. Admixtures of opium other than those used for smoking could, however,

be prepared by private persons, in quantities not exceeding two tolas for their own use, from opium in their lawful possession.

Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold but could be prepared for individual use by any person, from opium lawfully in his possession, in quantities not exceeding half a tola.

There were no restrictions regarding spent poppy heads. But, poppy heads from which the juice had not been extracted and which were used to produce a drink called 'post' could be retailed only by licensed vendors of opium.

134. *Limit of private possession.*—The ordinary limit of private possession was two tolas of opium and its preparations, half a tola of smoking preparations, which had been made up by the owner for his own use, and, two seers of poppy heads.

135. *Import and export of opium.*—Import of opium otherwise than on behalf of the Government was permitted to the following extent:—

1. By persons holding wholesale or retail license from the Punjab. The license holder in this case was also required first to obtain a permit from the Collector or Officer-in-charge of the excise revenue of the district in which he held a license, and, then an export pass from the Collector of the district of the Punjab from which the import was to be made. The export pass so obtained was sufficient authority for the import of the opium into the Province and its further transport to the district of destination.

2. By licensed medical practitioners and druggists, from foreign countries by sea, on payment of the tariff rate of duty and, subject to such further conditions, as were laid down by the Revenue and Divisional Commissioner.

136. *License holders in N.-W. F. P.*—License holders in the N.-W. F. P. were at liberty to purchase opium from wholesale vendors in the Punjab and *vice versa* and no duty was levied on either side on such imports and exports.

137. *Important changes.*—Under orders of the Government of India, issued in November 1924, the import of any kind of opium, in any quantity across the land frontier of India into British India was prohibited.

138. *Illicit traffic.*—The opium smuggling trade was believed to be again on the increase owing to the increased poppy cultivation in Ningrahar (Afghanistan) as well as in Kya Khabal on the Hazara border. The number of offences reported under this head increased from 44 in the preceding year to 87 in the year under report, resulting in the increase in the quantity seized from 23 to 68 seers. It may however be mentioned that the poorer class of the population (who form bulk of the opium eaters) were still unable to afford the cost of licit opium and resorted to contraband, which could be had without much difficulty and at a cheaper rate.

139. *Offences and convictions.*—The number of persons convicted for serious offences relating to contraband opium in 1932-33 was 77 against 37 in the preceding and 27 in the year 1912-13. The number of convictions for minor offences (breach of conditions of licenses, etc., in 1932-33 was 1 as compared with *nil* in the preceding year and 1 in 1912-13.

140. *Average Consumption.*—The average consumption of Excise Opium per 1,000 of the population in 1932-33 was 6 as against 8 in the preceding year and 2·5 seers in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XII.

DELHI.

141. The opium revenue for the year 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 1,69,525 of which Rs. 66,745 and Rs. 1,01,780 represented license fees and sale proceeds of Excise Opium, respectively. The revenue for the year 1931-32 were Rs. 1,83,840 out of which Rs. 73,660 were realised as license fees and Rs. 1,10,180 as sale proceeds of excise opium. The corresponding figures for the year 1912-13 were Rs. 36,795 and Rs. 32,282, respectively.

142. *Source of Supply.*—There being no poppy cultivation in the province, the supply of opium was obtained from the Government Factory at Ghazipur.

143. *Duty.*—Opium was sold to licensed retail vendors from the Treasury at Rs. 70 per seer. The total realization from such issues amounted to Rs. 1,01,780. Out of this Rs. 26,771-9-0 were credited as cost price of opium and Rs. 75,008-7-0 as duty against Rs. 79,507-15-0 in the preceding year and Rs. 35,282 in the year 1912-13.

144. *Vend Arrangements.*—There were no wholesale dealers and the retail shops were disposed of by public auction each year. The number of licenses during 1931-32 and 1932-33 was 11 in each year against 12 in the year 1912-13.

145. *Total issues and Average Taxation.*—Sales during the year 1931-32 and 1932-33 amounted to 39 maunds 14 seers and 36 maunds 14 seers respectively as against 76 maunds and 23 seers during the year 1912-13. The fall in sales during the year 1932-33 was probably due to economic depression amongst the class of persons addicted to opium eating. The consumption of opium per 10,000 of population worked out at about 22 seers, which fell short of the dividing line of 33 seers adopted by the Secretary of State as the average and Delhi could not therefore be called a "black spot". The average taxation per seer on opium during the years 1931-32 and 1932-33 was 98·25 (Rs. 51·43 from duty and 46·82 from vend fee) and 96·70 (Rs. 51·62 from duty and Rs. 45·08 from vend fee) respectively as against Rs. 21-14-0 (Rs. 11-8-0 from duty and Rs. 10-6-6 from vend fee) in 1912-13.

146. *Druggists' Licenses.*—The number of such licenses granted by the Collector was 5 only in the year 1932-33. The fee per license was Rs. 10. These licenses were issued to native druggists dealing in indigenous Hindustani medicines. The number of such licenses was 29 in the year 1931-32 as against 32 in 1912-13. The decrease in the number of these licenses was due to the introduction of new forms of licenses under the Dangerous Drugs Act, II of 1930, which were dealt with under head "Manufactured Drugs".

147. *Limit of private possession.*—The ordinary limit of possession is 2 tolas opium and preparations including decoctions from poppy heads. The possession of poppy heads was limited to 2 seers, and that of prepared opium to half a tola only. An individual could, however, manufacture prepared opium for himself from opium obtained by him in a lawful manner.

148. *Chandu smoking.*—The Punjab Opium Smoking Act was applied to the Delhi Province and its provisions had discouraged the habit of opium smoking to a very appreciable extent. In fulfilling all the obligations undertaken by India at the Hague and Geneva Conferences, in so

far as they affected internal policy, in its different stages, this Administration had throughout followed the Punjab Government. Owing to changed conditions and an improvement in the standard of living of the people a few old consumers who still survived indulged in this evil practice. No complaint of opium smoking in assemblies was received, and no change seemed necessary in the law on the subject. The suitability of any further change that could be adopted by the Punjab Government received due consideration for adoption in Delhi.

149. *Offences.*—The total number of persons convicted for offences relating to opium during the years 1931-32 and 1932-33 was 1 and 4 respectively as against 7 in 1912-13.

Calculated on the census returns of 1911, 1921 and 1931, the average consumption of opium per 1,000 of population in 1931-32 and 1932-33 worked out to be 2·4 and 2·3 seers respectively while the average during the year 1912-13 was 7·67.

150. *Administration of opium to children.*—The practice of administering opium to children fell into disuse and increased knowledge is likely to eliminate the evil still further.

CHAPTER XIII.

AJMER-MERWARA.

151. *Free production, sale, etc., of opium formerly allowed in the rural areas.*—Till the year 1900-01, this small territory was divided in respect to opium administration into two distinct spheres—the municipal areas which included the municipalities of Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri and the cantonment of Nasirabad, and the rural areas which covered the remainder of the territory. In the rural areas the cultivation of the poppy and the production, sale and possession of opium and poppy-heads were absolutely free, subject only to the restriction that smoking preparations could not be sold and could be possessed only by a person who had manufactured them for his own consumption. This freedom was allowed owing to the territory being surrounded by opium producing Indian States and to the local population being much addicted to the use of opium.

152. *Introduction of revised rules from 1st April 1901.*—With effect from 1st April 1901, however, revised rules were introduced under which the opium traffic throughout the district was brought under control. Cultivation of poppy was prohibited in Ajmer-Merwara.

153. *Local revenue, vend arrangements and average taxation.*—No quantitative duty was levied on opium consumed in Ajmer-Merwara till the year 1904-05, and the only taxation realised on the drug was that derived from vend fees. The levy of duty at Rs. 4 per seer on opuim imported into the district as well as on that locally produced was sanctioned with effect from the 1st April 1904 and the 1st April 1905, respectively. Subsequently, however, the imposition of the excise duty was restricted to opium consumed within Ajmer-Merwara, and the duty on opium removed for export outside the district was remitted with effect from the 1st April 1908. The right of vend was farmed out in the municipal towns in Ajmer, Beawar and Kekri, and the cantonment of Nasirabad, while in the rural areas it was disposed of by annual auction of independent shops. The number of shops in the municipal and Cantonment areas during the year 1932-33 was 8 and in the rural areas 32. In 1912-13, the number of shops in the Municipal and rural areas was 8 and 33, respectively.

The receipts were as shown below:—

	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Retail vend fees	22,188	37,367	35,288
Import duty	6,871	16,155	10,398
Total .	29,059	53,522	45,686

154. The following statement shows the quantity of opium issued and the distribution of taxation in comparison with the previous years:—

	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.
	Mds.	Mds. Srs.	Mds. Srs.
Quantity of opium issued . .	71	86 3	82 36
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Average taxation per seer . .	10 3 0	15 8 7	13 12 3
Proportion of average taxation derived from vend fees . .	7 13 0	10 13 7	10 10 2
Proportion of average taxation derived from duty . . .	2 6 0	4 11 0	3 2 1

155. *Sale and possession of opium and intoxicating drugs and poppy-heads.*—(*a*) *Sale* was only permitted by a licensed vendor or, for medicinal purposes, by a licensed druggist. In 1932-33, 11 druggists' licenses were issued against 9 in 1931-32 and 3 in 1912-13.

(*b*) *Possession* by ordinary persons was limited to three tolas of opium and its preparations (other than smoking preparations); five seers of poppy-heads; morphia and its preparations not exceeding 10 grains in weight; and half a tola of smoking preparations which had been made up by the possessor for his own use; provided that such opium or poppy-heads had been bought from a licensed vendor of opium or poppy-heads or from a licensed druggist or, in the case of preparations or admixtures of opium or intoxicating drugs prepared from the poppy, had been manufactured from opium bought from a licensed vendor of opium or poppy-heads or from a licensed druggist.

(*c*) *Intoxicating drugs other than smoking preparations* could be prepared and sold by a licensed vendor of opium or, for medicinal purposes, by a licensed druggist, and could be made up by any person for his own use within the quantity he was authorised to possess.

Smoking preparations could not be bought and sold and could only be privately made up by the smoker in quantities not exceeding half a tola, as stated in clause (*b*) above.

(*d*) *Poppy-heads* could be sold by the same class of persons by whom the sale of intoxicating drugs, other than smoking preparations, was permitted.

156. *Import, transport and export.*—The import, transport and export of opium into, through and from Ajmer-Merwara were regulated under passes. Import by rail was permitted only through prescribed railway stations, while export by rail was permitted from the Ajmer railway station only. No duty used to be levied on imports till the year 1904-05; but the levy of duty on both imports and exports was sanctioned with effect from the 1st April 1904 and the 1st April 1905, respectively.

157. *Offences and convictions.*—The following comparative statement shows the number of persons prosecuted under the Opium Act and the number convicted:—

	Prosecuted.	Convicted.
1912-13	22	20
1931-32	27	21
1932-33	8	7

160. *Average consumption.*—The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of the population in the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33 was 5·7, 6·1 and 5·9 seers, respectively.

CHAPTER XIV.

Coorg.

158. *Law regulating traffic.*—The Opium Act, 1878, (I of 1878) continued to be in force in Coorg.

159. *Supply.*—The cultivation of poppy in Coorg was prohibited and the Opium required for consumption in Coorg was purchased from Madras. The supply of Opium continued to be in the hands of Government.

160. *Retail Vend.*—The fixed salary system introduced in 1926-27 for the retail vend of opium was continued during the year 1932-33. There were only two shops and they were disposed of on a monthly salary of Rs. 10 and Rs. 4, respectively. One of the vendors was a private medical practitioner. The vendors had to purchase opium from the treasury at Rs. 125 a seer of 80 tolas and dispense it to the public at the same rate.

161. *Revenue.*—The sale proceeds of opium were the only source of revenue under this head. The gross revenue during the year 1932-33 was Rs. 2,312-8-0 against Rs. 2,812-8-0 in 1931-32 and Rs. 2,049 in 1912-13. The drug was obtained from Madras, at Rs. 23-7-0 a seer. Deducting the cost price and the salary paid to the vendors, the net receipts under opium during 1932-33 was Rs. 2,194-13-6. The issue price of opium was Rs. 125 both in 1932-33 and 1931-32 as against Rs. 30 a seer in 1912-13.

162. *Consumption and Incidence of Taxation.*—Consumption of opium in 1932-33 was 18·5 seers against 22·6 seers in 1931-32 and 62·5 seers in 1912-13. The incidence of taxation thereon both in 1932-33 and 1931-32 was Rs. 125 against Rs. 32-8-0 in 1912-13.

163. *Import, Export, etc.*—Raw opium could be imported only from Madras. Medical Practitioners could, under special permits from the Commissioner, import from any place, preparations or admixtures of opium or intoxicating drugs, other than smoking preparations, which were not locally procurable. Import or sale of smoking preparations was strictly prohibited. Opium or its preparations and admixtures were not exported from Coorg.

164. *Druggists' Licenses.*—Rule 5 and 11 of the Coorg Opium Rules permitted special licenses to be issued to Medical Practitioners free of cost for retail sale for medicinal purposes of opium and its preparations or admixtures other than smoking preparations. Five such licenses were issued during 1932-33 against six in the previous year and none in 1912-13.

165. *Private Possession.*—No person whose age was below 20 could possess opium or its preparations in any quantity. The limit of private possession in case of others was half a tola of opium or in the case of preparations containing opium, the opium contents of such preparations could not exceed half a tola. Poppy heads were not used in the Province. The rules did not permit either their possession or sale. The limit of private possession in case of morphia and its preparations was 10 grains. The limit of possession of these drugs by two or more individuals together was the quantity allowed for one.

166. *Average Consumption.*—Calculated on the census figures of 1931, the opium consumption in 1932-33 worked out to 0·11 seer per 1,000 of population compared with 0·14 in the previous year and 0·4 in 1912-13.

CHAPTER XV.

BALUCHISTAN.

167. *Revenue.*—The opium revenue in 1932-33 amounted to Rs. 55,000 (including Rs. 10,492 on account of cost price of opium) of which Rs. 20,110 were derived from vend fees. In 1931-32, the receipts from opium amounted to Rs. 61,000 (including Rs. 12,308 on account of cost price of opium) of which Rs. 20,705 were derived from vend fees, against Rs. 33,000 (including Rs. 7,000 on account of cost price of opium) of which Rs. 20,000 were derived from vend fees in 1912-13.

168. *Consumption.*—The total consumption of opium (issues from Treasury) during the year was 13 maunds excluding one maund and 16 seers issued for the Kalat State. In 1931-32 the total consumption of opium in the Agency was 15 maunds excluding one maund and 23 seers issued for the Kalat State, compared with 17 maunds and 29 seers in the year 1912-13.

169. *Supply and Duty.*—The cultivation of the poppy was prohibited. The system previously obtaining whereby licensed contractors were allowed to import opium, purchased from dealers in the Punjab, was superseded with effect from the 1st October 1909. From that date Excise Opium was imported by Government Agency at fixed rates. The issue price during the year under report was Rs. '60 per seer, Rs. 18-6-0 being credited as price of opium and the balance treated as duty (gain on sale price). In 1912-13 the issue price of opium was Rs. 16 a seer.

The source of supply of unlanced poppy heads was the Punjab, whence they were imported under pass by licensed vendors who made their own arrangements for procuring them. No import duty was levied thereon.

170. *Retail vend.*—The exclusive right of retailing opium, and poppy heads for ordinary purposes was put up to auction for each shop separately. The number of shops licensed for the retail sale of opium during the year 1912-13 was 37 while in 1931-32 and 1932-33 it stood at 31 and 30 respectively.

171. *Druggists' licenses.*—Medical practitioners and druggists could obtain licenses to sell opium, etc. (other than smoking preparations), and poppy heads, for medicinal purposes only, on payment of a fee of Rs. 10 per annum. Two such licenses were issued in the Quetta-Pishin District during 1932-33 against 14 in the preceding year and six in 1912-13. No such licenses were issued in other districts.

172. *Smoking preparations.*—Smoking preparations could not be bought or sold, and could be made by the smoker from opium in his lawful possession and then only to the extent of half a tola at a time, except in cases when two persons were present for smoking in which case the limit was one tola.

The ordinary limit of private possession was two tolas of opium and its preparations (other than smoking preparations) one seer of poppy heads, half a tola of smoking preparation which were required as above mentioned, to be prepared by the possessor for himself.

The collective limit of possession of smoking preparations of opium by two persons assembled together for the purpose of smoking was fixed at one tola.

173. *Permit.*—Out-side the arrangements referred to in paragraph 169, import was only permitted (*a*) by Government; and (*b*) under special permission by a licensed medical practitioner or druggist who required varieties of opium which he could not procure locally.

174. *Smuggling of opium.*—Opium is occasionally smuggled from Persia and Afghanistan. No case was discovered during the year.

175. In order to minimise the chances of smuggling opium from across the border, the selling price was fixed at Rs. 1-4 a tola, with effect from the 1st April 1927. Prior to this, the sellling rate was not fixed and the licensees sold opium at any rate they chose. The price at which it was generally sold varied from Rs. 2-4 to Rs. 2-8 a tola. The result of the above measure was that the consumption of licit opium had gone up from 242 seers in 1926-27 to 526 seers in 1927-28, 582 seers in 1928-29, 604 seers in 1929-30 and 596 seers in 1930-31 and 600 seers in 1931-32 and 515 seers in 1932-33. This measure, therefore, proved to be satisfactory.

176. *Average consumption and taxation.*—The average consumption of opium per 1,000 of population in 1932-33 was 1·2 seers against 1·5 seers in the preceding year and 1·7 seers in 1912-13. The incidence of taxation per seer of opium in 1932-33 was Rs. 80·68 against Rs. 75·95 in the preceding year and Rs. 36·7 in the year 1912-13.

177. The evil effects of administering opium to young children were brought to the notice of the public through the Agency of Revenue and Levy Staff. There seemed however, to be no ground for believing that this vicious practice was prevalent among the local inhabitants and no instance of it came to light during the year 1932-33.

178. The Punjab Opium Smoking Act, 1923 (VI of 1923), was extended to Baluchistan with effect from the 1st April 1927 in order to restrict the use of Opium Smoking.

179. The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930, (II of 1930) has been enforced in British Baluchistan with effect from 1st February 1931 by which all opium except pure opium and its preparations is now governed.

I

Statement showing consumption (issues) of opium during 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33 and percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) of average consumption in 1931-32 compared with that of 1912-13 and 1931-32 respectively.

Province.	1912-13.		1931-32.		1932-33.		Percentage of increase (+)or decrease (—) of average consumption on the figures of 1912-13.	Percentage of increase (+) or decrease (—) of average consumption in 1932-33 on the figures of the previous year.
	Consumption of opium (in seers.)	Average consumption per 1,000 calculated on the census figures of 1911 (in seers.)	Consumption of opium (in seers.)	Average consumption per 1,000 calculated on the census figures of 1921 (in seers.)	Consumption of opium (in seers.)	Average consumption per 1,000 calculated on the census figures of 1931 (in seers.)		
Madras Presidency	39,528	1·0	30,381½	0·65	29,972	0·64	—36·00	—1·54
Bombay Presidency Proper	44,259	2·7	18,084	1·005	17,246	0·96	—64·44	—4·48
Sind	10,450	2·9	4,108	1·0	3,848	1·00	—62·18	—6·32
Bengal Presidency	67,880	1·5	32,190	0·64	29,463	0·59	—56·59	—8·47
Burma	47,696	4·5	19,264	1·5	20,814	1·6	—64·44	+6·67
Bihar and Orissa	37,040	1·1	18,571	0·49	17,272	0·45	—53·37	—7·00
United Provinces	64,371	1·4	19,770	0·410	19,295	0·40	—70·03	—2·40
Punjab	66,520	3·3	31,047	1·3	30,025	1·20	—54·80	—3·30
Central Provinces and Berar*	54,480	3·9	15,020	0·9	12,816	0·80	—72·43	—14·67
Assam	62,048†	9·4	16,905	1·94	14,224	1·64	—77·00	—15·80
N.-W. F. Province	5,713	2·5	1,909	0·83	1,478	0·60	—2·86	—29·0
Delhi	3,068	7·67	1,574	2·47	1,492	2·34	—51·3	—5·2
Ajmer-Merwara	2,840	5·70	3,443	6·1	3,316	5·90	+3·50	—3·2
Coorg	62	0·40	22·6	0·14	18·5	0·11	—70·16	—18·14
Baluchistan	709	1·70	600	1·5	515	1·20	—41·67	—25·00
Total figures for British India.	506,664	2·08	210,979	0·6	201,794·5	0·7	—66·3	+14·2

* Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.
† Revised figures.

II

Statement showing the number of shops for the retail sale of raw opium (total as well as average per 1,00,000 of population) and the average area per shop during the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33.

Province.	1912-13.			1931-32.			1932-33.		
	Number of opium shops.	Average area per shop (in square miles).	Number of shops per 1,00,000 of population.	Number of opium shops.	Average area per shop (in square miles).	Number of shops per 1,00,000 of population.	Number of opium shops.	Average area per shop (in square miles).	Number of shops per 1,00,000 of population.
Madras Presidency	851	167·25	2·06	555	256·81	1·19	556	256·35	1·19
Bombay Presidency Proper	786	96·68	4·87	690	111·90	3·84	700	110·30	3·89
Sind	246	191·00	7·00	169	271·77	4·34	179	256·69	4·59
Bengal Presidency	891	88·33	1·96	865	82·89	1·72	871	82·32	1·73
Burma	124	1,861·60	1·02	119	1,963·92	0·91	119	1,963·92	0·91
Bihar and Orissa	563	148·75	1·63	510	163·04	1·35	528	157·48	1·40
United Provinces	1,094	98·05	2·34	936	113·56	2·06	965	110·10	1·99
Punjab	902	110·62	4·61	676	132·00	2·80	677	132·00	2·80
Central Provinces and Berar*	1,047	95·34	7·52	792	126·10	5·11	788	126·74	5·08
Assam	402	131·88	5·99	294	172·00	3·41	297	170·00	3·42
N.-W. F. Province	70	191·69	3·19	58	622·09	0·84	52	258·05	1·55
Delhi	12	..	3·00	11	52·50	1·70	11	52·50	1·70
Ajmer-Merwara	41	66·12	8·18	40	67·77	7·13	40	67·77	7·13
Coorg	3	527·33	1·71	2	791·00	1·22	2	791·02	1·22
Baluchistan	60	903·80	14·48	31	1,514·84	7·59	30	1,565·33	7·35
Total figures for British India	7,092	153·67	2·9	5,748	189·9	1·6	5,815	187·6	2·13

* Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.

III

Statement showing opium revenue derived in each province, its percentage to total Excise revenue and the average Excise Opium taxation per head of population in 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33.

Province.	Opium revenue (in thousands of rupees).			Percentage of opium revenue to total Excise revenue in			Incidence of opium revenue per head of population during								
	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1912-13.			1931-32.			1932-33.		
							Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Madras Presidency	17,22	37,38	36,57	5·2	8·8	8·6	0	0	8	0	1	3	0	1	3
Bombay Presidency Proper	12,15	23,95	23,07	6·4	8·1	7·32	0	1	2	0	2	1	0	2	0
Sind	3,68	4,67	4,38	15·9	15·60	14·06	0	1	8	0	1	11	0	1	10
Bengal Presidency	23,76	41,90	38,19	17·27	26·71	27·16	0	0	10	0	1	4	0	1	2
Burma	38,36	29,72	32,90	47·2	37·0	38·9	0	5	10	0	3	3	0	3	7
Bihar and Orissa	12,15	26,70	25,46	11·7	21·82	20·90	0	0	7	0	1	1	0	1	0
United Provinces	11,99	20,68	20,12	9·50	18·97	16·35	0	0	5	0	0	9	0	0	8
Punjab	12,24	32,67	30,58	18·90	33·63	33·41	0	1	0	0	2	3	0	2	1
Central Provinces and Berar*	19,28	27,87	23,26	18·2	40·4	40·40	0	2	3	0	2	10	0	2	5
Assam	27,38	27,74	21,20	56·40	54·1	52·40	0	6	7	0	5	0	0	3	10
N.-W. F. Province	1,19	2,11	1,67	22·80	23·46	21·46	0	0	10	0	1	8	0	1	1
Delhi	72	1,84	1,69	18·01	30·4	26·10	0	2	10	0	4	9	0	4	3
Ajmer-Merwara	29	53	46	8·20	8·30	7·29	0	0	11	0	1	6	0	1	3
Coorg	2·00†	2·81	2·31	0·08†	1·08	0·88	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	3
Baluchistan	26	61	55	9·30	10·1	9·60	0	1	2	0	2	5	0	2	2
Total figures for British India	1,80,69	2,78,40	2,62,41	14·8	19·01	17·87	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	1	6

* Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.
† Revised figures.

IV

Classified statement showing the total average taxation per seer (both from duty and vend fees) on Excise opium in the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33.

Province.	Average taxation per seer on Excise opium.								
	1912-13.			1931-32.			1932-33.		
	By duty.	By vend fees.	Total.	By issue price.	By vend fees.	Total.	By issue price.	By vend fees.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras Presidency	25·3	13·2	38·5	61·44	39·70	101·14	61·63	36·91	98·54
Bombay Presidency Proper	21·7	5·5	27·2	56·8	55·5	112·3	56·70	58·50	115·20
Sind	28·8	6·4	35·2	61·65	52·12	113·77	60·57	53·16	113·73
Bengal Presidency	21·6	13·2	34·8	90·84	38·28	129·12	90·50	37·50	128·00
Burma	78·0	2·4	80·4	160·9	..	160·9	167·8	..	167·8
Bihar and Orissa	19·4	8·7	28·1	71·43	33·52	104·95	71·62	37·34	108·96
United Provinces	12·7	5·9	18·6	51·4	34·5	85·9	51·60	34·20	85·8
Punjab	9·6	8·8	18·4	51·44	35·85	87·29	51·62	30·33	81·95
Central Provinces and Berar *	19·0	14·8	33·8	90	80·7	170·7	90	75·90	165·90
Assam	33·0	11·1	44·1	94·50	69·64	164·14	94·93	54·15	149·08
N.-W. F. Province	9·6	11·2	20·8	51·43	40·22	91·65	51·62	43·34	94·96
Delhi	11·5	10·4	21·9	51·43	46·75	98·18	51·62	45·08	96·70
Ajmer-Merwara	2·4	7·8	10·2	4·69	10·85	15·54	3·13	10·64	13·77
Coorg	25·5	7·3	32·8	1·25	..	125	125	..	125
Baluchistan	8·5	28·2	36·7	41·44	34·51	75·95	41·63	39·05	80·68

* Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.
† Revised figures.

V

Statement showing the wholesale price (charged to retail vendors) and the average retail price (at which the retail vendors sold opium to the public) of opium per seer during the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33, respectively.

Province.	Wholesale price of opium per seer to be charged to retail vendors.			Average retail price of opium per seer.		
	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Madras Presidency	33†	80	80	50 to 88	115 to 190	105 to 189
Bombay Presidency Proper	24 to 27	75	75	32 to 34	(*a*)	(*a*)
Sind	27	60	60	35	Not fixed.	Not fixed.
Bengal Presidency	29 to 35	76 to 91	76 to 91	35 to 120	135 to 150	135 to 150
Burma	40 to 95	8 to 187½	20 to 187½	60 to 160	80 to 190	40 to 190
Bihar and Orissa	17 to 35	90	90	20 to 55	120 to 135	120 to 135
United Provinces	18 to 22	70	70	25 to 30	120	120
Punjab	16 to 33	Ex. 70 Hill 56 to 65	Ex. 70 Hill 58 to 62	60 to 100	Ex. 90 to 100 Hill 75 to 80 155 to 240	Ex. 90 to 100 Hill 75 to 80 155 to 240
Central Provinces and Berar*	From 9/6 to hospitals to 27/8 to Khalsa and Feudatories transferred from Bengal.	90	90	20 to 55 (*a*) 23-11 to 53 35 to 70		
Assam	37 to 40	95	95	45 to 80	160	160
N.-W. F. Province	18 to 32	70	70	27 to 140	100	100
Delhi	20	70	70	32	100	100
Ajmer-Merwara	(*a*)	24 to 25	24 to 26	16 to 40 (Non-Ex.)	40 (Non-Ex.)	40 (Non-Ex.)
Coorg	30	125	125	45	125	125
Baluchistan	16	60	60	40 to 50	100	100

(*a*) Information not available.
* Figures relate to calendar years except in the case of 1912-13.
† Rs. 34 for issues from Taluk Cutcheries (the rate for Mysore was Rs. 11-9-0 per seer).
Ex. denotes 'excise.'

VI

Statement showing the number of convictions for offences relating to opium for the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33.

Province.	Convictions for offences relating to opium for the years					
	1912-13.		1931-32.		1932-33.	
	Total.	Average per 1,00,000.	Total.	Average per 1,00,000.	Total.	Average per 1,00,000.
Madras Presidency	250	0·6	130	0·28	153	0·33
Bombay Presidency Proper	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Sind	30	0·9	77	1·98	77	1·98
Bengal Presidency	272*	·6	119*	·2	110	0·20
Burma	2,481	20·5	2,054	14·0	2,232	15·2
Bihar and Orissa	(a)	(a)	58	0·15	69	0·18
United Provinces	344	0·7	464	1·0	471	0·97
Punjab	64	0·4	125	0·5	182	0·70
Central Provinces and Berar	(a)	(a)	370 (cases)	2·4	456 (cases)	2·90
Assam	16	·2	289	3·36	310	3·57
N.-W. F. Province	28	1·3	60	2·66	123	5·15
Delhi		2	1	0·15	3	0·47
Ajmer-Merwara	20	4·0	21	3·74	7*	1·24
Coorg	..	..		..	..	..
Baluchistan	5	(a)	1	0·24	2	0·48

(a) Information not available.

* Inclusive of convictions for illicit possession or sale of Modak or Chandu.

VII

Statement showing the percentage of total gross revenue derived from opium during the years 1912-13, 1931-32 and 1932-33.

Province.	Total gross revenue. (In lakhs of rupees.)			Revenue from opium. (In lakhs of rupees.)			Percentage of the total gross revenue derived from opium in		
	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1912-13.	1931-32.	1932-33.
Madras Presidency	808·4	1694·6	1700·1	17·2	37·38	36·57	2·1	2·2	2·2
Bombay Presidency including Sind	795·8	1481·8	1525·09	15·0	28·61	27·44	1·9	1·93	1·79
Bengal Presidency	716·5	..	..	23·8	41·90	38·19	3·3	..	..
Burma	608·3	1173·6	1028·6	37·2	31·6	34·4	6·1	2·7	3·3
Bihar and Orissa	325·2	519·4	505·8	12·3	26·7	25·4	3·7	5·1	5·00
United Provinces	707·9	1124·7	1145·8	11·99	20·68	20·12	1·7	1·8	1·80
Punjab	509·5	996·24	1023·91	13·20	32·76	30·58	1·1	3·2	2·90
Central Provinces and Berar*	325·4	423·6	454·5	19·3	26·4	22·90	5·9	6·2	5·0
Assam	178·1	249·96	238·2	17·40‡	27·7	21·20	15·4	11·0	8·80
N.-W. F. Province	4·04	8·95	8·77	1·20	2·11	1·68	2·8	23·46	19·04
Delhi	3·15†	6·05	6·47	0·72	1·84	1·69	18·01	30·34	26·10
Ajmer-Merwara	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
Coorg	(a)	13·22	13·12	(a)	0·03	0·02	(a)	·21	0·17
Baluchistan	16·56	20·17	20·10	·26	·61	0·55	1·57	3·02	2·74
Total figures for British India	4999·85	7712·29	7670·46	169·57	278·32	260·74	3·39	3·70	3·38

(a) Information not available.
* Figures relate to calendar years except for 1912-13.
† Inclusive of cost price of opium.
‡ Revised figures.

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VIII

Statement showing the quantities of opium confiscated by the Excise Department of Local Governments in 1912-13, 1928-29, 1929-30, 1930-31, 1931-32 and 1932-33.

Province.	1912-13.			1928-29.			1929-30.			1930-31.			1931-32.			1932-33.		
	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.	Mds.	Srs.	Tls.
Madras Presidency	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bombay Presidency Proper	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sind	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bengal Presidency	(a) 3	9	0	44	4	0	36	17	0	29	26	0	14	22	0	13	26	9
Burma	38	3	0	122	10	4	156	12	17	228	5	40	150	7	32	198	11	79
Bihar and Orissa	0	35	40	5	29	70	4	5	65	0	38	65	0	6	36	1	26	17
United Provinces	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Punjab	*	*	*	8	11	0	8	29	0	11	34	0	9	13	0	7	29	8
Central Provinces and Berar	..			..			..			..			..			..		
Assam	..			(b) 1	32	0	(b) 2	38	65†	0	33	71	1	12	23	0	28	44
North-West Frontier Province	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Delhi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ajmer-Merwara	0	14	22	21	28	74	0	32	42½	3	26	44	3	16	55	4	19	0
Coorg	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Baluchistan	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*

(a) Represents seizures in important cases only.
(b) Figures for calendar year.
* Information not available.
† Revised figures.

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